

**BULGARIA
IS
1300 YEARS
OLD**

*Louis Vermijs Drukkerijen b.v.
1982 – Breda Nederland
and Bulgarian Embassy in the
Hague.*



First Bulgarian capital Pliska – 7th century.



*Map of Bulgaria
with old Bulgarian towns.*



TODOR ZHIVKOV

**General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Bulgarian Communist Party and
President of the State Council
of the People's Republic of Bulgaria**

SPEECH ABOUT BULGARIA

**Delivered at the Ceremonial Meeting Dedicated
to the 1300th Anniversary of the Founding
of the Bulgarian State
Sofia, October 20, 1981**



*Ceremonial Meeting dedicated to
the 1300th anniversary of the
founding of the Bulgarian State on
the tribune the President T.
Zhivkov delivers the "Speech about
Bulgaria".*



Dear compatriots,

Distinguished guests,

Friends of Bulgaria from all parts of the world,

From this festive rostrum, I address all men and women citizens of socialist Bulgaria.

Brothers and sisters.

History, the sage mentor of the peoples, is striking an hour most dear to us: our people, the people of Bulgaria, is striding from its thirteenth into its fourteenth century.

A state's antiquity is a source of pride for its people. Twice more justified is the pride of that people which does not rest solely on its past glory, but on its maturity and present-day achievements as well.

Our people, the people of Bulgaria, is such a people.

Not only has the people of Bulgaria overcome the vicissitudes of fate along its historic path of 13 centuries, but it stands today before the eyes of the world – proud of its past, great in its present like never before, and confident in its future as a people in the van of human progress.

At this solemn hour, there is no single Bulgarian whose heart is not overflowing with a feeling of deep filial respect and gratitude for our ancestors. They, who lived before us at this stormy crossroads of peoples and civilizations, built up and defended the Bulgarian state with sword and mind, through labour and bloodshed. They created unique material and spiritual values. They cultivated virtues and established traditions without which it would be impossible to explain the miracle of Bulgaria's resurrection after five centuries of foreign domination; or the miracle of the birth, strengthening and triumph of a powerful communist movement in a country that was predominantly agrarian; or the miracle of the years after September 9, 1944, in which socialist Bulgaria has traversed a path equivalent to centuries.

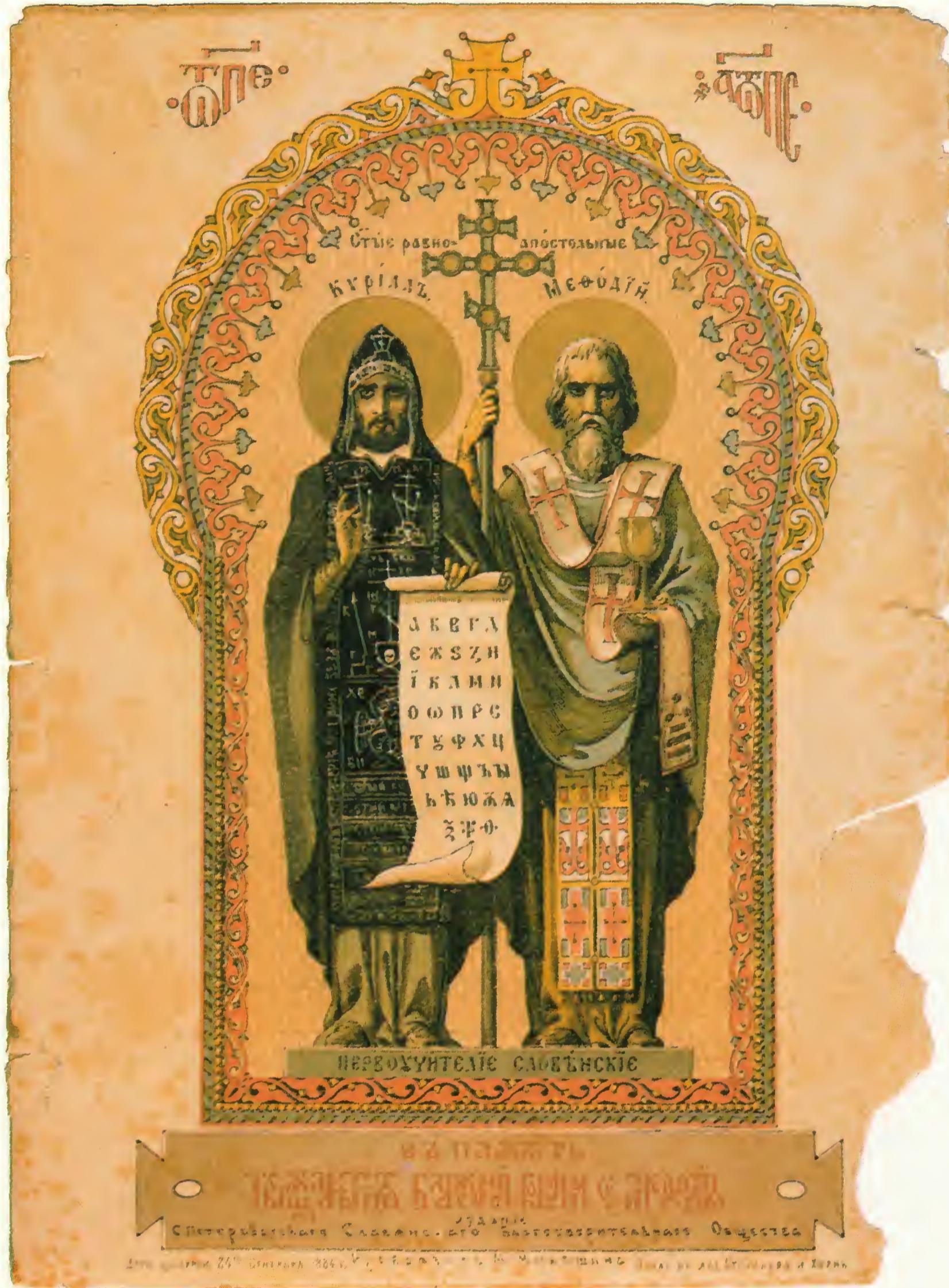
The present is inseparable from the past. The future is inseparable from the past and the present.

In the year of the thirteenth centennial of Mother Bulgaria we, her children of today, unfold the unforgettable pages of history, in order to probe more deeply into our nation's destiny and see the future more clearly; to uplift our hearts and arm our minds with the aspirations, virtues and traditions which lent strength to our predecessors, which lend strength to us today, and will lend it to our children and grandchildren in their forward march.

Which are the features and traditions that characterize our people?

First and foremost, there is the militant spirit, our **democratic and revolutionary traditions**.

Our history is a series of innumerable protest movements, rebellions, conspiracies and uprisings, a ceaseless struggle by the people against foreign and domestic plunderers and oppressors, for justice and liberty, for a decent life, for social progress. The revolutionary traditions found a logical development in the working class struggle against capitalism. They have been one of the main motive forces of our progress, of our drive to build the mature



"Bulgaria was the first Slav state to herald the political and intellectual awakening of the multimillion Slav world, to help the Slav people to join the mainstream of the civilization of that time and to give them an irresistible impetus to reach its front ranks."...

"In the darkness of the early Middle Ages the Bulgarian enlighteners Cyril and Methodius gaven an alphabet to the Bulgarian people and all the Slav world."

Todor Zhivkov

The brothers Cyril and Methodius.

socialist society, to build communism.

Another striking feature, characteristic of our people, is its **thirst for knowledge, for education**, its receptivity to all that is good and progressive in other peoples and, at the same time, its readiness to share with others its own cultural acquisitions, its own social experience. **The humanistic popular traditions** have been particularly powerful, both in works by individual artists and in our folklore. This distinctive feature of our national culture has performed a remarkable constructive, protective and reviving role in our people's historical destiny.

Continuator of a glorious heritage, our present-day culture is aspiring toward new ideological and aesthetic achievements, exerting an ever growing influence on the all-round ideological, political, spiritual and moral elevation of the entire nation.

Industry is another valuable feature which we, as a people, should continue to promote and develop within ourselves. Our people hates plunderers, and despises idlers. Its ideal of man is that of the worker, the maker and creator of material and spiritual values. It is this ideal that it worships and lauds in songs and stories. Our people has viewed, and still views labour not merely as a source of wealth; it has always found, and continues to find in its spiritual and moral satisfaction, the meaning of human life.

Ardent patriotism is one of our people's greatest virtues. Forced to defend the freedom and independence of the Fatherland for centures on end, it knows how to love it and sacrifice itself for it.

Still, love of the Fatherland is typical of every people. **What is distinctive of the Bulgarian people is the way it combines patriotism with internationalism.**

There are no good peoples as distinct from bad peoples. There are bad – both foreign and home-grown – oppressors. Or, as Georgi Dimitrov said at the Reichstag Fire Trial in Leipzig, '... in what country are the fascists not savages and barbarians?'

In fighting against the Ottoman oppressors, our haidouts and insurgents were not fighting the Turkish people. Hundreds of Bulgaria's sons fought bravely for the freedom and independence of neighbouring peoples in the same way as they fought for the freedom and independence of their own people. Thousands of Armenians found refuge, a home and a motherland in Bulgaria. At the time when the German Nazis and their Bulgarian stooges were on the rampage in this country, it was thanks to the struggle of our people that the Bulgarian Jews managed to escape the fate of the Jews in most of the states of Europe. None other than the great Lenin himself called Bulgaria's left-wing socialists internationalists in deed. None other than the first Party and state leader of the Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev, defined Bulgarian-Soviet friendship as a model of socialist internationalism in action. No matter how far away from us, every people that rises to fight becomes our brother, whose victories and defeats reverberate in our hearts as victories and defeats of our own.

A characteristic feature of our people, linked directly to internationalism, is **its respect for the rights and freedoms of other peoples, its friendliness, its love of peace**, its inner conviction that there is no boon more precious than peace, understanding and good neighbourliness.

It is a telling fact that we take the year 681 as the beginning of the Bulgarian state, for in that year Khan Asparouh signed a treaty

with Byzantium that was none other than a treaty of peace. Our entire foreign policy during the 37 socialist years has been a constant drive to overcome the danger of war, to consolidate peace. Not only here, in the Balkans, where we have vested interests, but everywhere, at all meetings and talks with representatives of states from even the most distant regions.

Indicative of our love of peace is our desire to maintain good relations and seek out common interests not only with the socialist countries, but also with the developing and the capitalist countries; to work in concert for the consolidation of peace, not only with the communist and workers' parties, but with all other democratic parties and movements, with all those genuinely concerned about mankind's future; to promote cooperation in the economy, culture and sport on a broad scale.

We could point to still other qualities which determine the unique national character of our people and explain its evolution. It will suffice for me to emphasize but one more: **its inexhaustible historic optimism.**

The Bulgarian people has never suffered for lack of faith. Both in times of greatness, of the highest spiritual elevation, and in times of slavery and suffering, oppressed and exterminated, forgotten by the rest of the human race, our people has never lost faith in its constructive potential, in its creative resources, in its future.

This faith, flowing forth from the depth of the centuries, is now our communist faith – still more powerful, more stimulating, built in as a strong armour in the breasts of us all!

The Bulgarian people is the creator, guardian and bearer of all these traditions and virtues. We, the citizens of our socialist republic, also are, and will remain creators, guardians and bearers of these wonderful traditions and virtues!

Let us pay our heartfelt tribute to our people as a creative people, a fighting people, and a building people!

Historical processes, phenomena and tendencies are, of course, complex and contradictory. Overflowing with respect for Bulgaria's past, we do not forget that hers is a history of class societies and of struggle between the classes. In that past, there have also been dark periods when the forces of reaction reigned, as well as harrowing popular and national tragedies.

But no single oppressor, be he a foreigner or a domestic one, has ever been able to boast of having subdued the Bulgarian people. History remembers the powerful movement of the Bogomils, and the victorious sword of the peasant-king Ivailo shines in it. The clattering hooves of King Ivan Shishman's legendary cavalry resounded across the Bulgarian lands throughout the five long centuries of slavery. The century since the country's liberation from foreign bondage has also been marked by ceaseless class battles. If the essence of our history is to be summed up in a single word, that word would be **struggle**. And always, in the front ranks of that struggle there marched Mother Bulgaria's dearest children, her brightest minds; there marched men of letters and educationists, haidouts and voevods, rebels and revolutionaries, and, during the last nine decades, our own Communist Party..

These are the people and events we praise. These are the things that give us a legitimate right to high national self-confidence.

Our people respects itself, its achievements and its history. We are proud of having been 'able to contribute something to the



Thracian gold found near Panagjuriste



world'. However, national self-importance, national arrogance are alien to us. We respect the order in other households, and we are grateful to everyone from whom we have received anything. We have no need to take over the merits or history of others; we are satisfied with our own. As for those who try to humiliate and slander us, to disfigure and rob our past, to them we can repeat the words of the ardent Father Paissi: 'Read your history!'

Comrades,

We are taking stock of the 13 centuries of historical development of the Bulgarian state in the year 1981 – the thirty-seventh years of our socialist era.

Here is our transformed and rejuvenated homeland, our socialist Bulgaria, all around us and in us. Our remote and more recent predecessors would really be proud of her if they could see her as we, their descendants, see and build her!

The victory of the September Ninth socialist revolution marked the beginning of an epoch – the beginning of stupendous economic, political, social, cultural and moral changes. The age-old dream came true – the people became the master of its state, of its destiny!



The famous Thracian tomb near Kazanlak 4-3 century B.C.

Poverty-stricken Bulgaria, the Bulgaria of the primitive plough and hoe, of the thorny little fields and emaciated cows, of urban poverty, of indigence and hunger, now exists only as a faded memory of those old enough to remember it and in the works of our artists.

Today the People's Republic of Bulgaria is an advanced industrial and agrarian country, with a solid material and technological basis, with a modern industry, with an integrated and mechanized agriculture, with a dynamically developing national economy, with a constantly rising living standard of the working people, with a flourishing culture; a country in which the socialist way of life is being established and the new socialist man is growing up as a convinced fighter for the triumph of communism, a bold worker and creator, a patriot and internationalist, a man of great nobility of soul and high moral virtues.

We are fully justified to say that **in socialism the Bulgarian people has found the solution to all most vital problems of its existence and development.** Thirty-seven-year-old socialist Bulgaria is that highest peak in the ascent of our people from which we now cast a glance not only toward our heroic past, but also toward the even happier days of the future.

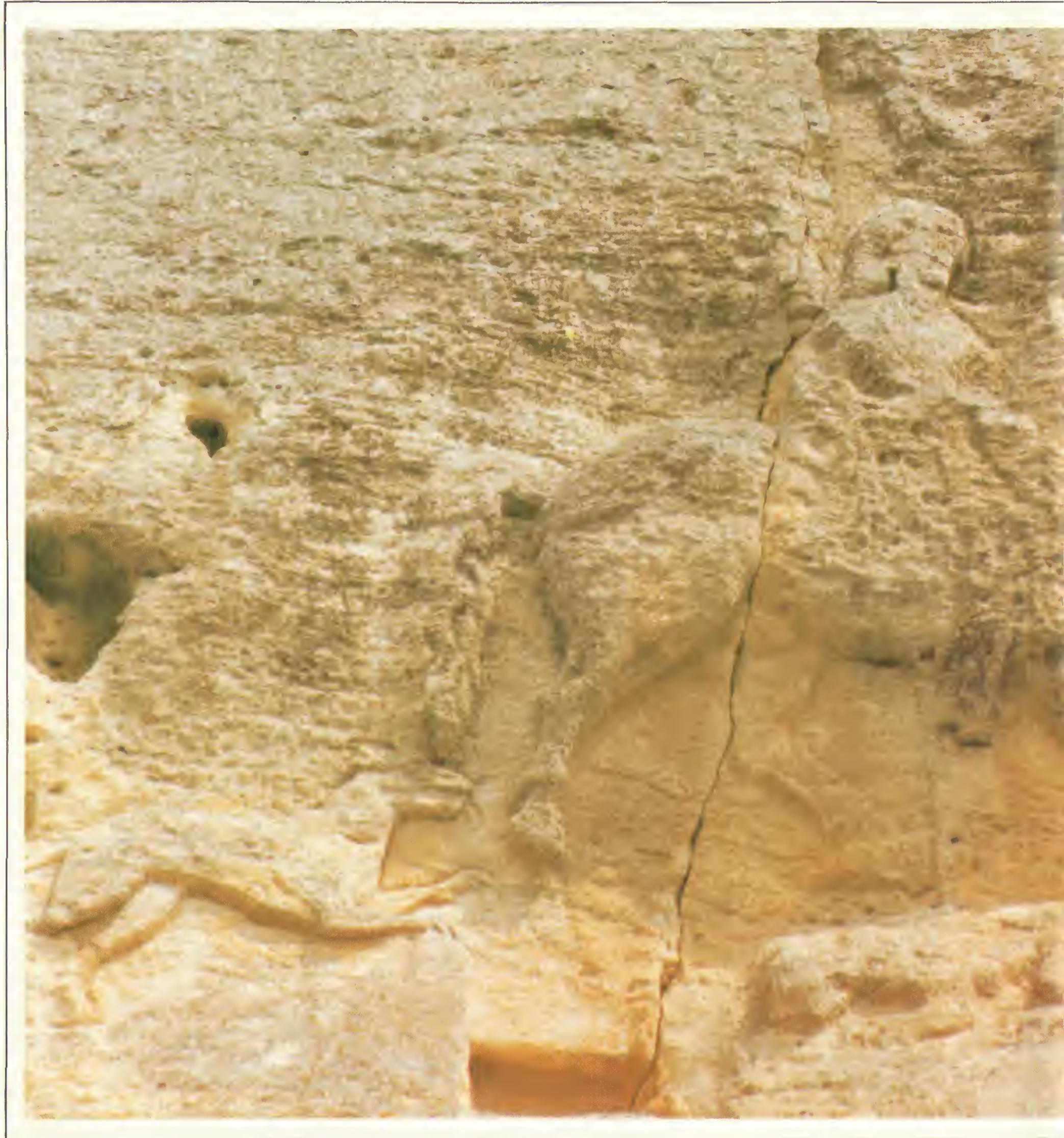
During the thirty-seven years of freedom our people has given free rein to all its constructive power and shown what it is capable of.

Everything we have achieved with supreme effort, all the wealth which is now available to all, everything is the fruit of its unshakeable faith in the ideas and cause of socialism and communism, of its dedicated labour.

Everything that our people has achieved, has been achieved under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party. It took over the age-old democratic, progressive and revolutionary traditions. It took the banner of the fighters of the National Revival period into its own hands. It raised their ideals of freedom, fraternity and equality to a new height on the basis of scientific communism.

Recently we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the Bouzloudja Congress. A people such as ours could not but bring forward as its vanguard a strong party worthy of it, capable of educating it ideologically and politically, of mobilizing it, of leading it to struggle and to the ultimate victory. The main and most striking qualities of our Party manifested themselves in the fierce class duel: immutable loyalty to the interests of the working class, of the working people, of the people; cristal purity, fidelity and a creative attitude to the ideas and principles of revolutionary Marxism, to Leninism; irreconcilability to opportunism and revisionism, to bourgeois nationalism and chauvinism, inextinguishable patriotism and internationalism.

Today the Bulgarian Communist Party is stronger than ever before. It draws its strength from its general Leninist line of April 1956, its Programme and the concrete projections of the Twelfth Congress for building mature socialism. It draws its strength from the trust of the people in its ideas, goals and policy, the political and labour activity of the working class, the farmers, scientific and artistic intelligentsia, the youth. It draws its strength from its tried and tested ally – the Bulgarian Agrarian Party, the all-round support and cooperation of the Fatherland Front, the Bulgarian



Trade Unions, the Dimitrov Young Communist League.

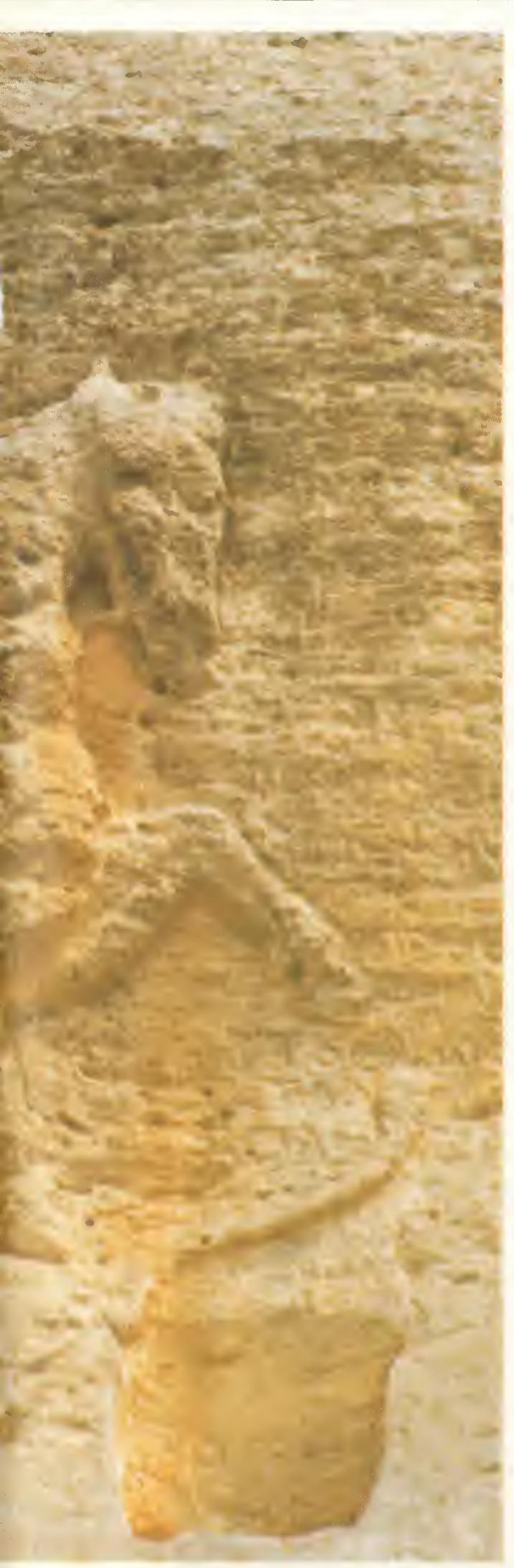
The Bulgarian Communist Party draws its strength from the fraternal union of the communist parties of the socialist community; from the respect and support of the international communist and workers' movement; from its friendship with the progressive and peace-loving forces in the world.

We could also word it this way: **our people draws its strength and pride from its Bulgarian Communist Party; our Party draws its strength and pride from its people, united and rallied round its ideas and programme!**

Bulgaria is entering its fourteenth century as a country of existing socialism.

We are faced with new and complex tasks. We harbour no illusions: there will be difficulties and weaknesses to overcome.

The Madara Horseman – Relief of a celebrated Bulgarian King – 8th century A.D.



There were difficulties during the period of transition from capitalism to socialism, along our whole road up to now. There would be no modern Bulgaria without the struggle for surmounting them. There will also be difficulties in future. The main thing, though, is that the working people are successfully implementing the Party projections. Deep-going and planned processes are taking place in the country. Elements of mature socialism are already taking shape in the economy, in culture, in the socialist way of life. Intensive development of the economy, intellectualization of production and labour, direct application of the achievements of scientific and technical progress in practice are now assuming prime importance. Along this road we are confidently marching toward the next peak it is our ambition to reach – the mature socialist society.

Let us pay our heartfelt tribute to our heroic Communist Party – the inspirer, organizer and leader of Bulgaria pursuing its April 1956 course!

Comrades,

The enduring grandeur of the cause of our ancestors lies in the fact that the Bulgarian State – in contrast to the states existing at the time on our continent – was built on the principle of nationality, as a state of one people – the Bulgarian people. It arose on the basis of three main ethnic components – the Proto-Bulgarians, Slavs and Thracians – which formed one nationality, the Bulgarian. It was the first Slav state, which heralded the political and spiritual awakening of the Slav world of many millions, helped it to join the civilization of the times and gave it an irresistible impetus towards the forefront of that civilization.

Glory be to the great prime builders, under whose leadership the Bulgarian people created their centralized state – the khans Asparouh, Kroum and Omourtag, knyaz Boris I, the tsars Simeon, Samuil, Assen and Peter, Kaloyan and Ivan-Assen II!

The Bulgarian land was long ago the centre of cultures great for their times, which had an influence on ours and which our ancient people creatively infused into its own culture.

But there is one cause in our past which is particularly important in explaining our national resilience and indestructibility – the cause of those brothers of genius, Cyril and Methodius, and their disciples.

Bulgaria is the homeland of the Slavonic alphabet, of the Slavonic script and culture. Literary schools, busy centres of wide educational and instructive activity, made their appearance. With their work Cyril and Methodius opened up boundless horizons for the cultural development of our people, provided us with a powerful weapon for national self-awareness and national self-preservation. Our own written word must have been a terrible spiritual weapon, indeed, to make foreign conquerors not only exterminate our ancestors, but also burn our books!

Glory be to the brothers Cyril and Methodius who in the darkness of the early Middle Ages gave our people and the whole of Slavdom the inextinguishable torch of education and progress!

Cyril and Methodius and their disciples are the fountainhead of the sound humanistic, democratic and revolutionary traditions of



*Fragment from the Bojana Church
– 13th century.*

Bulgarian culture, which has never seen a higher or more noble goal than that of serving its people, its education and struggle, its national, political and spiritual elevation. This tradition passes through everything written by Chernorizets Hrabi and Patriarch Evtimi, by Paissi and Sofroni of Vratsa, by Georgi Rakovski and Petko Slaveikov, by Botev and Karavelov, by Zahari Stoyanov, Ivan Vazov and Elin Pelin, by Hristo Smirnenski and Nikola Vaptsarov.

Glory be to the men of letters, enlighteners, educationists and revolutionary creators, who through their immortal works wrote and are writing the truthful and striking artistic history of the labour, struggles and aspirations of the Bulgarian people!

Our people lived through two periods of bondage, which lasted for centuries and slowed down its natural development. It was deprived of a state, of land, of rights, of its Orthodox faith, it was deprived of everything, except hope. It was forbidden everything but one thing – to obey. We could say that those were unhappy, disgraceful centuries in our history were it not for the fact that they were illuminated by the continuous struggles for freedom and independence.

The legendary haidouts never left the enslavers in peace and the people sang songs of their heroism.

Voevods and standard-bearers were hanged on the gallows, teachers and monks, peasants and craftsmen, pined away in the dungeons, because of their rebellious spirit and love in freedom.

Uprisings broke out.

Then came our resurrection – the National Revival. Great ideologists and leaders of the national-democratic revolution grew up: Georgi Rakovski, Lyuben Karavelov, Vassil Levski, Hristo Botev, Georgi Benkovski, Gotse Delchev, Yane Sandanski. Hundreds of clandestine revolutionary committees laid the beginning of an original popular organization for struggle unknown at the time anywhere else in the world.

Ploughmen and shepherds, cobblers and tailors, the whole people followed the lead of the apostles of freedom, the 'unruly' ones. Teachers taught not just writing and arithmetic, they taught young and old lessons in revolution. Peasants and craftsmen would give everything they held dear in order to get themselves flintlocks and powder. Priests preached the religion of freedom and administered the Holy Communion for the blood wedding that lay ahead with cross and pistol in their hands.

Everybody did the best they could in the common fight against people's enemies.

In April 1876 the Bulgarian people displayed miracles of heroism and self-sacrifice and proved that it was worthy of being free.

Let us bow deeply to the radiant memory and the sacred feat of the enlighteners, martyrs and heroes, known and unknown, of our National Revival and our national-democratic revolution! Eternal glory be to them!

The Russian heroes brought us our freedom. Romanian and Finnish soldiers fought for our liberty. Our gratitude to our Russian brothers knows no boundaries. Russian soldiers and Bulgarian volunteers cemented with their exploits and their blood our brotherhood at Shipka, Pleven and Stara Zagora, throughout our country, and erected a symbolic monument to it.



*Drawings cut in the rock in the
Magura cave, – 8-7 cent. B.C.*



Let us bow deeply to the heroes who scattered their bones over the sacred Bulgarian land in order to fertilize our Fatherland for a new upsurge!

After the Liberation the Bulgarian bourgeoisie betrayed the ideals of our National Revival, the ideals of our revolutionary democrats, the ideal of a pure and sacred republic.

Only thirteen years after the Liberation, however, it was there again, in the proud Balkan Range, on Mount Bouzloudja, that the foundations were laid of the revolutionary Marxist party of the young Bulgarian proletariat, of our toiling people, in Bulgaria, which was centuries behind in its social and economic development.

Our people nurtured great revolutionaries during the past hundred years.

Dimitar Blagoev, a student banished from Czarist Russia, grew up as one of the greatest Marxists of his time. Together with his remarkable comrades-in-arms he laid the foundations of our Party and turned it within a short time into a combat-ready ideological and revolutionary force.

The one-time compositor Georgi Dimitrov headed together with Vassil Kolarov the world's first anti-fascist uprising — the September 1923 Uprising; at the Reichstag Fire Trial he dealt fascism the first crushing ideological, political and moral blow; he was elected Secretary General of the Communist International.

The toiling peasantry produced the great democrat, peasant leader and statesman Alexander Stamboliiski.

The working people rose four times in a mass armed struggle against the monarchy, capitalism and fascism. Three times: in the autumn of 1918 near Vladaya, in June and September 1923 — the risings ended in a blood bath.

The Second World War began. Fulfilling its patriotic and internationalist duty, the Bulgarian Communist Party led the working people in its last and decisive battle against the bourgeois-fascist rule.

Partisans walked the haidut paths, not yet overgrown; they were workers, peasants and intellectuals; communists and members of the Young Workers' League, Agrarian Party members and non-affiliated people. The partisan bands grew into detachments and brigades. Combat groups operated courageously in the towns. In the villages partisan helpers, ignoring the mortal dangers, sacrificing themselves, their families and homes, offered shelter and food to the people's fighters.

And then came the great Day One, September Nine, 1944. With the decisive assistance of the Soviet Army our people carried through the socialist revolution, which opened a new page in the immortal book of Bulgarian history.

Our historical memory will cherish forever innumerable feats and names, for the heroes are countless, both famous and humble, dead and living, to whom we should pay our filial tribute today. Glory be to them!

Today we can declare proudly: the people of socialist Bulgaria has proved worthy of its glorious past, both distant and more recent.

Glory be to the enthusiastic builders of the first five-year plan periods, who preached socialism, persuaded and carried others away with them, who ploughed the boundaries between the old fields, erected plants and dams, poured in the sound foundations of

our young republic!

Glory be to those who are building the developed socialist society in Bulgaria with their inspired labour!

Allow me on behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, of the state organs and the public and political organizations which adopted the jubilee address to our people to express our most sincere gratitude to the Bulgarian industrial and agricultural workers, our intelligentsia, to the Bulgarian women, the young people, the armed defenders of the Homeland, to all those who turned the year 1981 into a year of political and labour upsurge and won fresh successes in the implementation of the decisions of the Twelfth Congress!

The 13-century jubilee of the Bulgarian state has had wide repercussions all over the world. Jubilee committees were set up in scores of countries, large-scale political and cultural initiatives and manifestations showed the ancient and modern image of our people, its contribution to European civilization.

Allow me on behalf of the State Council and the government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, on behalf of the Bulgarian people to express our heartfelt gratitude to the peoples, governments, public organizations, institutes and individuals who honoured our country in this year of our jubilee!

Comrades,

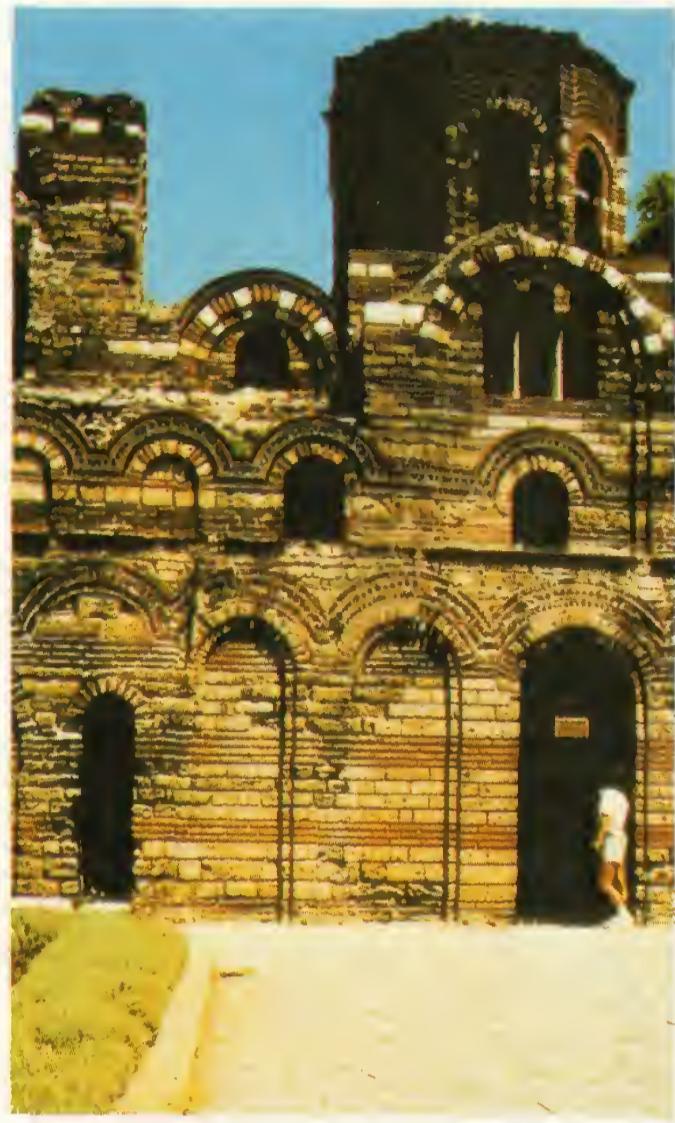
The Bulgarian state is meeting the 1300th anniversary of its foundation with a stable international status, with loyal allies and friends, and with a universally acknowledged and steadily growing prestige throughout the world.

Today the People's Republic of Bulgaria maintains intensive diplomatic, economic and cultural relations with almost all states on our planet, takes an active part in the most prestigious international organizations and forums, itself being the initiator and host of major international undertakings and events.

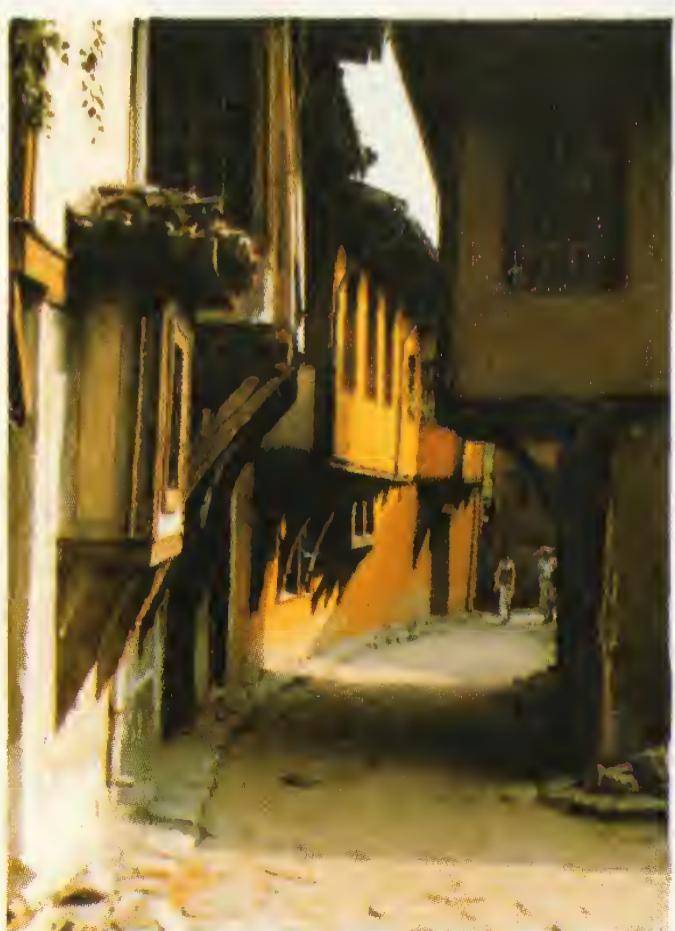
It is of crucial importance for the People's Republic of Bulgaria that it belongs to the family of socialist countries. We know that only as a strong and inseparable unit of the socialist community will our state and our people successfully defend their independence and territorial integrity, will multiply their socialist achievements.

From this rostrum we send militant greetings to the peoples which have linked their destinies with the Warsaw Treaty and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and assure them that the People's Republic of Bulgaria will continue indefatigably to develop and expand its all-round cooperation and closeness with them, will make its contribution to strengthening the might of our fraternal community.

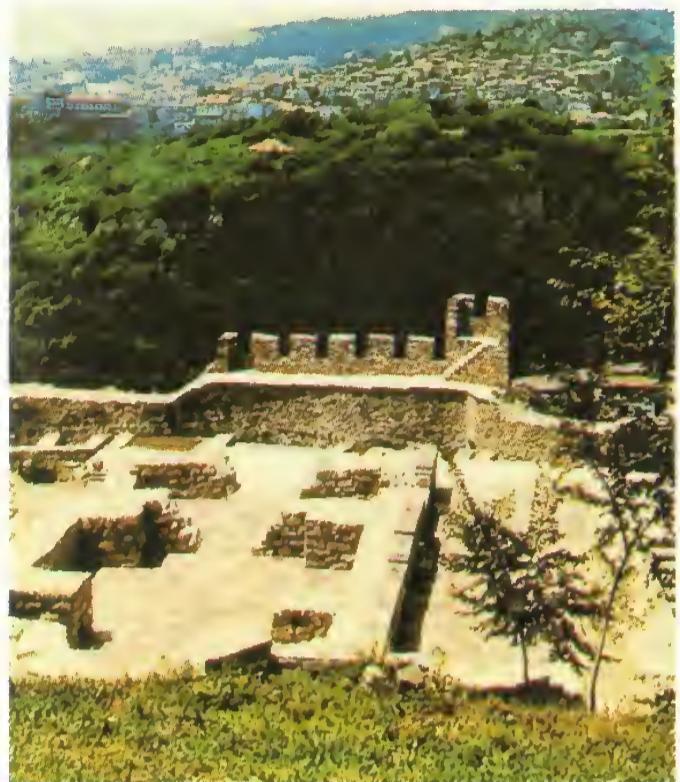
We are proud, we are happy that our most loyal ally and friend is the great Soviet Union. Our love for the country and the Party of Lenin is already an inalienable feature of our national character, of our socialist mentality. And we are glad that the feelings of the millions of Soviet and Bulgarian working people for each other are mutual. It is because of this that the fraternal cooperation and ever greater closeness between our parties, peoples and countries are being continuously enriched, deepened and elevated to an ever greater height. We share the same ideals and goals, and we follow the same road!



Nessebar town



City of Plovdiv



City of Veliko Tarnovo

Allow me, on this solemn day, to express once again our boundless love and gratitude to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to the peoples of the Soviet Union, to their glorious Leninist Communist Party.

Comrades,

The year 1981 has been a troubled year. The course to a sharp aggravation of the international situation, to stepping up the arms race, to confrontation and conflicts steered by the imperialist and reactionary circles, has made progressive mankind shudder at the threat of a possible nuclear annihilation.

Peace is in danger, peace must be saved!

The Twelfth Congress re-affirmed the principled and consistent foreign policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. We stand for peace and peaceful coexistence, for developing mutually beneficial political, economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation among states, for familiarization and friendship among peoples.

Bulgaria has done and will do its best to strengthen detente and peace, to implement the Peace Programme for the '80s adopted by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, to ensure the success of the peace initiatives of the socialist countries, of the revolutionary and democratic forces in the world.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria has done and will do everything possible to develop its relations with the Balkan countries, to strengthen peace and good neighbourliness.

The Balkans are inhabited by peoples who have for centuries maintained lively contacts, drawing on common cultural sources and favourably influencing each other.

The most important of the dramatic lessons of the past, earned with blood, suffering and national catastrophes, is that solely the policy of peace and understanding, of friendship and cooperation corresponds to the interests of the Balkan peoples. We appreciate what has been achieved in the past few years. We believe that by common effort we can and should turn the Balkans into a model of good neighbourly relations, cooperation and peace. Bulgaria stretches out her hand, she is ready to sign bilateral agreements with the Balkan countries, including a code of good neighbourly relations and a renunciation of any territorial claims; she is ready to participate in the further expansion of cooperation.

We warmly support the idea of turning the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone. We propose that a meeting of the leaders of the Balkan states be held as early as next year to discuss this problem. The turning of the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone would correspond to the interests of our peoples. It would be a substantial contribution to the improvement of the international climate, to the gradual transformation of Europe into a continent free of nuclear arms; it would be one more victory of peace.

We are optimistic: mankind should not, cannot, will not perish! Our Earth will revolve along its solar orbit ever more magnificent and peace will reign supreme on it forever!



Ceramic portrait from the old metropolis Preslav – 7th century.

Distinguished foreign guests,

Dear compatriots,

Brothers and sisters,

Bulgaria is parting with its 13th century and striding into its 14th century.

Past, present and future converge as in a focus in contemporary socialist Bulgaria.

Contemporary socialist Bulgaria is the crown of the 1300-year-long development of our state.

Contemporary Bulgaria, launched on its course by the April 1956 Plenum, is the springboard for its future soaring and flowering.

The Bulgarian people – the creator and the greatest creation of our national history – has for 13 centuries stood unshakably on this land.

It is a people which never bowed its head to foreign or local oppressors, which has developed and preserved great democratic traditions.



Bojana, Church – 11 century.

A people which has given birth to revolutionarie of genius and men of culture, outstanding scientists, remarkable statesmen and commanders.

A people which is friendly and cheerful, frank and direct, open to the world, to everything that is progressive, a people which does not covet what belongs to somebody else, but knows how to value, defend and develop what has been bequeathed to it by its grandfathers and ancestors.

Such a people has survived and will survive for ever!

Relying on the glorious militant past, confident in our working people's glorious present, today we direct our eyes to the future.

What will it be like tomorrow, our own dear, generous land?

We see Bulgaria of mature socialism. The Programme of the Bulgarian Communist Party provides not only a scientifically substantiated projection of the mature socialist society, it also charts the truest course and the most secure strategy of our accelerated and intensive rise in prosperity.

We see the 14th century of Bulgaria as an age of communism, as a complete triumph of freedom, fraternity, equality, happiness and beauty!

Whether Bulgaria's next century will be an age of triumphant communism will depend on us, on our inspiration and daring, on our minds, hands and collective will, on the inspiration and daring, the minds, hands and will of our sons and grandsons.

We firmly believe that our youth will take over from us the banner of Bulgaria, will be worthy of their ancestors, of their mothers and fathers!

We people love life, but we know that we are mortal. This does not trouble or discourage us, however, because what we have accomplished will remain after we are gone; because our people will remain immortal.

Let us congratulate ourselves on the entry of our dear Fatherland into its 14th century!

Glory be to the Bulgarian people!

Long live the friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and the Soviet people, between the Bulgarian people and the peoples of the other socialist countries, between the Bulgarian people and all peoples in the world!

Long live the cause of peace, socialism and communism on our sacred Bulgarian land!

May Mother Bulgaria be blessed!



The Monument "1300 years Bulgaria" in Sofia

THE WORLD
CONGRATULATES
BULGARIA

Special Number on Bulgaria

Cahiers Européens Europäische Hefte Notes from Europe

Januar 1981

1/81

Special Number on Bulgaria



European Quarterly Cultural
Review "Notes from Europe"
Special number devoted to the
1300 anniversary of Bulgaria

published by fondation F.V.S.
in Hamburg and J.W. von
Goethe – fondation – Basel
January 1981

Inhalt/Sommaire/Contents

Nikolai Gentschew

Bulgarische Wiedergeburt, nationale Revolution und Europa (9)

Le Réveil bulgare, la Révolution nationale et l'Europe (13)

The Bulgarian Revival, the National Revolution and Europe (17)

Warbinka Naidenowa

Bulgarien – Wiege alter Zivilisationen (22)

La Bulgarie – Carrefour de cultures antiques (27)

Bulgaria – Cradle of Ancient Civilizations (31)

Roger Bernard

Die bulgarische Sprache (37)

La langue bulgare (41)

The Bulgarian Language (44)

Mara Zontschewa

Das thrakische Grabmal von Kasanlak (50)

Le tombeau thrace de Kazanlak (55)

The Thracian Tomb of Kasanluk (57)

Wladimir Swintila

Tausend Jahre bulgarische Ikonen (60)

Mille ans d'icônes bulgares (63)

Icon Painting over a Millennium (66)

Maria Petrowa

Dessislawa – die bulgarische Mona Lisa (68)

Dessislava – la Joconde de Boyana (72)

Dessislava – the Mona Lisa of Boyana (73)

Peter Konstantinow

Die Lebenskraft der Volkskunst (76)

Renaissance d'un art populaire (79)

Rebirth of Folk Arts and Crafts (81)

Rosalia Bik

Die Musik in Orpheus Landen (85)

La musique au pays d'Orphée (89)

Music in the Land of Orpheus (93)

Albert Koen

Der bulgarische Film an der Schwelle der 80er Jahre (96)

Le cinéma bulgare au seuil des années 80 (99)

The Bulgarian Film on the Threshold of the 'Eighties (101)

Mitjo Widelow

Sofia – gestern, heute und morgen (104)

Sofia – hier, aujourd'hui et demain (109)

Sofia – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (113)

Dobri Bradistilow

Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft (116)

Economie et Société (121)

Economy and Society (121)

Dontscho Zontschew

Kiro – Cyrille (126)

Miron Iwanow

Gabrovo: Die Hauptstadt des Humors (134)

Gabrovo – capitale de l'humour (136)

Gabrovo, The Capital of Humour and Satire (138)

The President of Austria Kirch-schläger receives the Chairmen of the Committees for the celebration of the 1300 years anniversary of Bulgaria from the westeuropean countries



TO

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV

TO

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA COMRADE GRISHA FILIPOV

Dear comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR, all the Soviet people, and in my own name, we extend to you, to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to the Bulgarian people warm greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria and the 13th centennial of the foundation of the Bulgarian State that are celebrated this year.

The victory of the socialist revolution of September 9, 1944 became a particular landmark in Bulgaria's multi-century history. This victory brought national and social independence to the ancient Bulgarian land, and opened wide vistas for free development and social progress, for construction of a new society.

These years witnessed major deeds and profound changes. Under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the working people in the Republic – workers, peasants and intelligentsia – made remarkable successes in the development of the industry, agriculture and education, in raising the nation's prosperity. Present-day Bulgaria is a modern socialist State with dynamically developing economics and culture, part and parcel of the mighty socialist community. The 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Commu-

nists opened for the country the way to new and higher horizons of social-economic development.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria's consistent foreign policy deservedly won international renown. As an active participant in the Warsaw Pact and the Council for Mutual Economic Aid, acting together with the other fraternal countries, Bulgaria makes a considerable contribution to strengthening the unity and cohesion of the socialist community, in the struggle against the threat of war, for friendship and co-operation among nations.

Relations between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria acquire wider dimensions and fill up with richer content every year. The all-round co-operation between the two countries and peoples is widening. To-day, relations between our countries, with roots going far back in the past, rest on the firm basis of marxism-leninism and socialist internationalism. Friendship and solidarity, and the clear realization of common destiny and interests are a lasting property of our peoples and a promoter of their social progress.

In these days of significance to Bulgaria, we wish you and the fraternal Bulgarian people new achievements in the construction of the mature socialist society, in fulfilment of the decisions of the 12th Party Congress, in the noble struggle for peace and security in Europe and in the world.

Long live and flourish forever the fraternal union and the unity between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Bulgarian Communist Party!

Long live the indestructible friendship between the peoples of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Bulgaria!

L. BREZHNEV
N. TIKHONOV

TO
THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST
PARTY AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COUNCIL TODOR
ZHIVKOV AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA GRISHA
FILIPOV.

Dear comrades,

In relation to the glorious jubilee – 1300th Anniversary of the Bulgarian State, we are sending you – the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council and to all the Bulgarian people warm friendly greetings and sincere good wishes on behalf of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the Government, and from all the people of Czechoslovakia.

Long, hard and complex was the journey of the Bulgarian people toward todays socialist society. Alterrating were periods of peace and flourishing with periods of deadlock and breakdowns bounded with humiliation, tyranny and slavery from which the cruelest was the period of the five centuries Ottoman yoke.

The Bulgarian nation passed with honour this exam of history. It preserved its national existance, language, writing and culture. With the help of the brotherly Russian people it achieved a national freedom.

Our people remember with respect the heroes of the national liberation struggles of the Bulgarian people – G.S. Rakovski, Vassil Levski, Hristo Botev as well as the outstanding revolutiona-

ries, founders of the Marxist-Leninist party and the new stage of the revolutionary movement of your native land – Dimitar Blagoev, Georgi Kirkov and Gavril Georgiev. In our memories will stay forever the first armed collision of the Bulgarian communists and all the people with the advancing fascism through September 1923, when the Bulgarian communist party continued the good traditions of the past and took the lead in the fight of the working class for its rights. With the name of the eminent representative of the international communist and workers' movement – Georgi Dimitrov is connected with the triumphant battle against capitalism and fascism.

With the realization of a socialist revolution under the leadership of the communist party, the Bulgarian people began a new stage of its history – building of the socialism. In close collaboration with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the native land was turned for a short period into a flourishing state with a developed industry and agriculture.

We are sincerely happy about the remarkable successes of socialist Bulgaria and the rising international authority of this nation. We especially value the contribution of Bulgaria in the strengthening and unification of the countries of the socialist society and of the international communist workers' movement.

Our two nations are strongly connected with traditional friendship, the roots of which reach the beginning of our national history. It strengthened in the fight of our people for freedom and independence, in the revolutionary struggles of the working class against the exploiters, in the collaboration of the Czechoslovakian and Bulgarian communists, to all the workers in the building of the socialism now. We are proud that the unforgettable sons of our people, Klement Gottwald and Georgi Dimitrov placed the beginning of the modern history of our brotherly collaboration and mutual assistance, that lay the strong base of the Czechoslovakian and Bulgarian relations. These mutual relations lean on the ever more deepening of the brotherly cooperation between the communist parties on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, and the socialist internationalism.

The aspiration toward a happy life of our people that have been expressed in the last congresses of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party is indissolubly connected with the strengthening of peace and lowering the stress. The Czechoslovak people together with the Bulgarian people and the other socialist countries as well as the democratic forces from the whole world positively support the Soviet Union and the noble fight of this country for the elimination of the danger of a new world war, fight for peace and understanding among the people, looking forward to the victory of socialism and progress.

We wish you, dear comrades, and to the Bulgarian communists and all the Bulgarian people new successes in the fulfilment of the responsible task of building a developed socialist society, point at the XII Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Gustav Hussak, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Lyubomir Strogall, Chairman of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

TO

THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
TODOR ZHIVKOV

Dear comrade Todor Zhivkov,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party of the Presidium of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Hungarian people we express friendly greetings and sincere good wishes to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and to all the Bulgarian people on the occasion of the noteworthy event in the history of your nation – 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

Every citizen of the People's Republic of Bulgaria can be proud with the historical achievements of his country in her 1300 year of existence, with the struggles, in the name of freedom, independence and social progress, with the success marked in the economical and social region, with the progress in the development of culture.

The rich in historical traditions and the glorious revolutionary past, the Bulgarian people under the leadership of the continuers of the Dimitrov traditions, following the ideas of the Marxism and Proletarian Internationalism Bulgarian Communist Party works for the building of the developed socialist society, for the fulfilment of the Decisions of the XIIth congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. Our people accept with sincere respect and consideration the results of this persistent work.

On the occasion of this significative anniversary we wish further success to the Bulgarian people in the forming of the flourishing People's Republic of Bulgaria, and the strengthening of the brotherly friendship between our party's countries and people.

Yanosh Kadar, First Secretary
of the Central Committee of the
Hungarian Socialist Workers'
Party.

TO

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
TODOR ZHIVKOV, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINIS-
TERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA GRISHA
PHILIPOV

Dear comrades,

On the Occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State we are sending to you, to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, to the State Council, to the Council of Ministers and to all the working people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria fraternal greetings and best wishes from the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the State Council, the Council of Ministers and all working people of the German Democratic Republic.

Centuries-long was the heroic resistance of the Bulgarian people against social injustice, exploitation and bondage. Prominent representatives of the cultural life created highly artistic works which

were included in the national cultural heritage and enriched world culture. The creative work, the bold deeds and the immense sacrifice of all true patriots and ardent internationalists of that time went down in the history of the struggle for new Bulgaria.

Owing to the liberation of the country – gained with the heroism of the glorious Soviet Army and as a result of the struggle of Bulgaria's best sons and daughters against fascism and the reaction – nearly forty years ago a decisive historic turn, the victory of the socialist revolution came about on Bulgarian soil. Since then the fraternal Bulgarian people succeeded, under the leadership of their Communist Party and in union with the forces of world socialism, in accomplishing considerable and internationally renowned successes. Thus the dreams and the aspirations of the great fighters of the past turned into a living reality for the present generation.

Our two parties, states and peoples solidly bound by our common philosophy, Marxism – Leninism, and faithful to the legacy of the unforgettable comrades Ernst Tellman, Wilhelm Pieck and Georgi Dimitrov, will advance in the future, too, along the road of socialism, guided by the decisions of the Xth Congress of the SURG and the XIIth Congress of the BCP.

Dear Comrades, we wish you health, creative energy and personal happiness.

Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party and President of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic.
Willi Stoff, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic.

HIGHLY RESPECTED COMRADE ZHIVKOV! DEAR COMRADES AND FRIENDS!

On the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State, I am delivering to all the Bulgarian people ardent brotherly greetings and best wishes on behalf of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, the management of the United Agrarian and Democratic Party and also on behalf of the Supreme Organs of the Polish People's Republic.

We relate with deep respect to that is great and eternal in the deed of the creators of the Bulgarian State. We bow before the great heroes of the Bulgarian people, which have fought for independance in the times of the centuries long sanguinary slavery. Their feat preserved the natioal appearance of the Bulgarians as people and inspired the Bulgarian national rebirth.

The historical victory of the Ninth of September Socialist Revolution connects the rich traditions of the battles for independance, civilization and culture with the ideas of the revolutionary Workers' Movement and opened new perspectives in the future of Bulgaria.

Successor of all great and worthy for respect in the 13th century struggles against the foreign violators, the People's Republic of Bulgaria crowned with the historical triumph desired by the Bulgarian people.

The successes of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, her flourishment in the region of economics, sciences and culture, enriched humanity with new values and her contribution in the great deed for

peace called forth common appreciation all over the world.

We are over fulfilled with deep respect for the work of the Bulgarian Communist Party. Her Marxist-Leninist ideology, her revolutionary feat and her talent for organization are a base for the successes of modern Bulgaria.

This fills our hearts with joy because as far back as the Middle Ages, friendly relations had existed between our people. They received further developement in the general battle of our revolutionaries for national and social freedom and the ideological unity of the parties which led our people strengthened it forever.

The Warsaw Treaty signed on May 29 1948 for friendship, collaboration and mutual aid, started the new stage in the mutual relations between Polish and Bulgarians.

In a continuation of 33 years on its stage the relations between our two countries in all the regions of life became more full-blooded. Their importance exceeded the limits of the two way relations – they are an important contribution for the strengthening of the unity of the socialist society, shoulder to shoulder around our great common friend, the Soviet Union.

In this indistructible unity we see the future of Poland in the contribution for strengthening the power of the Warsaw Treaty we see a guarentee for our independance, in the noble collaboration, in the frame work of the Council for Mutual Economic Aid, we see a chance for providing and uplift in the developement of the Polish economy, in the faithfullness of our party toward the Marxism-Leninism principles we assurance that we will overcome all hardships.

Comrades, on this occasion allow me to express our thankfulness toward the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and the other socialist countries for the aid which is being rendered. It sooths our difficulties, relieves our hardships, assists in our struggle against the anti-socialist forces.

Dear Bulgarian comrades!

When staying faithful to the centuries long traditions in the common battle for freedom, the friendship strengthened in the struggle for socialism and the force that inspires in us the unity of the socialist society; we deeply believe, that the indistructable relations, born in the past, will flourish in the days before us, and that through developement in the relations between our countries, people and parties will give even richer results.

Ceramic picture "Asparuch's triumph" – state gift of the People's Republic of Poland.



Greeting from Henrik Jablonski, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Poland delivered at the ceremonial meeting in the People's Palace of Culture in Sofia, dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian State.

A MESSAGE OF GREETING EXTENDED BY
GEORGE RADULESCU

*Esteemed Comrade Todor Zhivkov,
Dear Bulgarian Friends,
Esteemed Comrades and Friends,*

It is a particular honour and pleasure for me to convey on behalf of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, Secretary General of the Rumanian Communist Party and President of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, of the State Council and our country's Government, on behalf of the communists and all Rumanian people warm friendly greetings and most cordial wishes to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the National Assembly, the State Council and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to you personally, esteemed comrade Todor Zhivkov, to all the participants at this solemn session, as well as to the entire fraternal Bulgarian people on the occasion of its celebrating the 1300th anniversary from the formation of the First Bulgarian State.

With satisfaction I would like to point out that as early as the very coming of the Bulgarian people and their settlement in the lands neighbouring on Rumania to the south of the Danube, relations of mutual respect, friendship and mutual assistance, as proper between good neighbours, have been established and have developed ever since. The history of the Rumanian and the Bulgarian peoples is rich in common battle-field exploits against domination and foreign oppression, for freedom and better life, for independent socio-economic development.

As Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu has underlined, "Living in neighbour countries our peoples have been related by deep feelings of mutual esteem and respect, by relations of good will, understanding and fraternal friendship".

In the conditions of contemporary history, after the victory of the socialist revolution and with the construction of socialism, Rumanian/Bulgarian friendship has been promoted further and has acquired new contents. The common nature of the socialist social order, the Marxist-Leninist ideology, the principles of international solidarity, independence and national sovereignty, of equality of rights and non-interference in domestic affairs, of mutual respect and friendly mutual assistance form the foundations of this new type of relations between our countries.

A decisive role in the development of friendship and cooperation between our parties and states play the frequent meetings and fruitful talks of comrades Nicolae Ceausescu and Todor Zhivkov.

The documents of inestimable significance signed at top level, the constantly progressing course of Rumanian/Bulgarian relations are a genuine model of fruitful and friendly collaboration between neighbouring peoples.

Giving a high estimate to these relations, the leaders of our party and state express their conviction that the joint activity in the spirit of the Treaty for Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, of the top level agreements, and the co-operation between our parties, countries, and peoples in all spheres, will continuously develop and extend.

Both countries' achievements in the building up of the new social order, the substantial growth of their economic potential, and the success scored in the Rumanian/Bulgarian cooperation create greater possibilities for the development of our relations in the future, and represent a major contribution to the consolidation of socialism in the world, for reinforcing friendship and co-operation

among the socialist countries, among all forces of progress and peace.

Esteemed Comrades and Friends,

Devoting all its strength to peaceful construction, to the fulfilment of its plans for socio-economic development, Rumania decisively acts against the imperialist policy of domination and oppression, for putting an end to the intensification of international tension, for resuming and continuation of the process of detente, for carrying out a new policy of peace and observing each country's independence, a policy that will enable the peoples to concentrate their forces on independent socio-economic development, corresponding to their own strivings, without any external interference whatsoever.

We take a decisive stand against the policy of power and threatening power play, for curbing the absurd arms build-up, and for immediate transition towards disarmament, nuclear disarmament first and foremost, against the neutron arms, against the deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe, for elimination and destruction of those existing now, for convening a conference on disarmament, and consolidating the initiatives aimed at establishing mutual trust on the European continent.

We consistently act for promoting the relationships with all Balkan states with a view of turning this region into a zone of peaceful co-operation, friendship and good neighbourly relations, free from atomic arms and foreign military bases, which will actively contribute to establishing security in Europe and the world throughout.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

In conclusion I would like once again to extend warm greetings to the communists, to the entire Bulgarian people on the occasion of this great anniversary of yours, together with our fraternal wishes for new and greater achievements in accomplishing the Programme of the Bulgarian Communist Party, for incessant flourishing of your Fatherland, for increasing your welfare, for the happiness of all working people of our neighbour – friendly Bulgaria.

Greeting from George Radulesku, Deputy Chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, delivered at the meeting in the People's Palace of Culture in Sofia, dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

TO
STATE COUNCIL AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On behalf of the Mongolian people the Presidium of the Great People's Khural and the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic are sending the State Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and to all the brotherly Bulgarian people warm greetings and best wishes in relation with the significant event – the 1300th Anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

In her centuries long history, Bulgaria passed a long road of development, in a time when the courageous Bulgarian people managed to defend their State in the battle against the foreign yoke,

to win over the exploiter and fascist dictatorship to realize their aspirations for freedom, national independence and social progress.

The victory of the socialist Revolution on the ancient Bulgarian land, earned before 37 years under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party with the decisive help from the legendary Soviet Army, rightly became the strongest zenith in the historical battle of the Bulgarian people for a happy life and crucial moment in its destiny, in the 13th century existence of the Bulgarian State.

With the strengthening of the socialist social order in Bulgaria materialized the centuries long cherished dreams and aspirations of the Bulgarian people for a happy and free life, for peace and friendship with the other people from the world.

Today Bulgaria stands in a distinguished place in the socialist community in the world. With her adherence to principles and peaceloving policy and active foreign policy work, she gives distinguishable contribution for the strengthening of the unity and power of the world socialist community for the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the whole world.

We mark with big satisfaction that the brotherly relations and friendship and decisions of the historical XIIth congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party, in the common fight for peace and security.

Long live the indistructable brotherly friendship between the people of the Mongolian People's Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria!

Presidium of the great People's
Khural of the Mongolian
People's Republic.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE BULGARIAN
COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT OF
THE STATE COUNCIL, AND GRISHA FILIPOV, CHAIRMAN OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BULGARIA

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, the Council of States and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba and on behalf of the whole Cuban people we convey our cordial greetings to you, to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, as well as to the whole Bulgarian people on the occasion of the 13th centenary of the Bulgarian State.

The thousand-year long history of Bulgaria is a clear expression of the adamant will-power of the nation that, in the struggle against powerful enemies, formed its culture, national spirit and fighting traditions. As a result of long combats it shook off Ottoman domination, won a glorious victory over fascism and took the road to real freedom.

Socialist construction that began after the 9th of September 1944 under the experienced leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party succeeded for a very short historical period to turn your fatherland from a backward agrarian country into a flourishing highly developed industrial and agrarian state; a glorious example inspiring all the people who aspire after social justice and progress.

On occasions like this we ought to remember Georgi Dimitrov



Head in helmet – gift from the sculptor Henry Moor.

and his immortal work. The world revolutionary movement will celebrate his hundredth anniversary next year. Together with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community Bulgaria is a stronghold in the struggle for peace. This and the principles of proletarian internationalism, being consistently put into practice, raised high the prestige of your foreign policy.

Cuban-Bulgarian friendship is being strengthened and consolidated in the common endeavours to build socialism. It has its own rich history and is a bright example of peaceful and mutually advantageous cooperation and solidarity between parties, states and peoples.

At present our two countries, together with all progressive forces of mankind are united in the struggle against the aggressive and warmongering policy of the imperialist government of the United States; a struggle for the consolidation of world peace and security, for social progress.

Dear comrades, accept with all your heart our most sincere congratulations and wishes for new and still greater achievements in the building of socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria; for the prosperity and welfare of the Bulgarian People.

Fidel Castro Rus, first Secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, President of the Council of States and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

TO
THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 1300th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDATION OF THE BULGARIAN STATE TODOR ZHIVKOV,
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA GRISHA PHILIPOV AND THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA STANKO TODOROV.

Dear Comrades,

On the occasion of the celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the creation of the Bulgarian state on behalf of the Vietnamese people, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State Council, the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and on our own behalf, we extend to you, and through you to the Bulgarian people, to the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria our sincere congratulations and most heartfelt wishes.

Throughout 13 centuries of building and defending the country it is the struggle and the armed uprisings against foreign enemies and invaders and against the internal forces of oppression and exploitation that wrote the history of Bulgaria. Faithful to their traditions of resolute and fearless struggle, of astiduousness and creativity, the Bulgarian people have overcome all vicissitudes of history, constantly developed their best virtues, succeeded in preserving their spirit, language, script and culture and rose to the glorious heights

of the present-day, displaying, during the 37 years of socialist development, brilliant successes.

The deeds of the past 37 years are the result of creative and peaceful labour. Under the leadership of the renowned BCP with the assistance and all-round co-operation of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, the Bulgarian people, full of revolutionary ardour, gained enormous successes for the cause of socialism, turned Bulgaria, the backward country of the past, into a nation of modern industry and agriculture, of advanced science and technology, elevated it among the advanced countries of Europe and the world. Today the People's Republic of Bulgaria is a factor in preserving the peace on the Balkan peninsula. The international standing and prestige of socialist Bulgaria in the world arena are being steadily increased each day.

With her great achievements and her foreign policy of peace and international cooperation the People's Republic of Bulgaria plays an important part in the strengthening of the might of the socialist community, in the struggle of the peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

The Vietnam people are proud of these remarkable achievements. They sincerely wish that the fraternal Bulgarian people, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, headed by their renowned leader Comrade Todor Zhivkov, fully implement the decisions of the XIIth Party congress and build the developed socialist society in the beautifull motherland of the great Georgi Dimitrov.

We respect deeply the friendship with the fraternal Bulgarian people and we shall be always grateful to the Party, the State and the people of Bulgaria for the great support and valuable help they rendered to the revolutionary cause of the people of Vietnam.

Let the relations of friendship, militant solidarity and all-round co-operation between the parties and the peoples of our two countries be strengthened and developed in the future as well.

Le Zuan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party.
Truong Chinh, Chairman of the State Council of Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
Nguen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly of Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

I have great pleasure on behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council, the government and the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and on my own behalf in extending our warmest and heartfelt congratulations to You, dear Comrade Zhivkov, to the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council, the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and to the fraternal Bulgarian people on the happy occasion

of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

The Afghan people are convinced that the fraternal Bulgarian people will advance to ever newer successes under the wise guidance of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Since the April Revolution, and particularly in its new stage, friendly brotherly relations have been established between the peoples, the parties and the states of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The celebration in Afghanistan of this important event is an expression of the strengthening of the brotherly and friendly ties between the two countries.

I wish new successes for our multiple efforts, based on the principles of internationalism and aimed at the further development of the brotherly connections between the peoples of our two countries.

Babruk Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, President of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

*Miniature model of Tadge Machal-
State gift from India.*



TO

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
TODOR ZHIVKOV.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Korean Party of Labour, the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, the Korean people and myself I am sending you and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people ardent congratulations on the occasion of the ceremonial celebrations of the great national holiday dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

The foundation of the Bulgarian State 1300 years ago was of great historical importance.

Following the foundation of their state, the Bulgarian people started a persevering and manly struggle against foreign invaders and created their original culture, high spiritual and material values.

The victory of the socialist revolution in September, 1944 marked a turning point in Bulgarian history.

Proud of their rich historic heritage the Bulgarian people today go through a glorious period of vigorous growth and efflorescence. The Bulgarian nation is highly patriotic and leads an energetic struggle in the name of the further building of a developed socialist society.

The achievements of the fraternal Bulgarian people in the building of socialism contribute to the overall success and prestige of all the socialist countries.

The Korean people, with all its heart, wishes the Bulgarian people, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by you, Comrade Zhivkov, new and still greater achievements in the fulfilment of the decisions and tasks set by the 12th Party Congress for the current five year period.

I would like to express my firm belief in the fruitful strengthening of friendship between the Bulgarian and Korean peoples.

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Party of Labour and President of Korean People's Democratic Republic Kim Il Sung.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, on behalf of the State Council, the Council of Ministers and the entire people of Kampuchea I convey our warmest greetings and best wishes on the occasion of celebrating the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state – to you, the leaders of the Party and the state, as well as to the whole brotherly Bulgarian people. It is a great honour for our delegation to take part in this festive session. We consider the celebration of the 1300th anniversary a factor that stimulates throughout the world the attachment of the people to peace and social progress.

This jubilee – the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the

Bulgarian state – calls to mind the long-lasting struggle of the Bulgarian people for preserving their culture for the future generations. It reveals to the working people of the world the ascending social and democratic development of Bulgaria. It will also contribute to the cause of continuous improvement of the international relations and to guarding the existence of all peoples in the world.

In the last 13 centuries the Bulgarian people had to overcome numerous difficulties of historic significance in the process of consolidating their nation and state to reach the stage of the present proletariat state. These victories are the result of the ardent fight of the working class and the peasants, in close collaboration with all progressive forces in the country, under the wise guidance of the Bulgarian Communist Party and under the influence of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Today, continuing the traditions of this bold struggle, the Bulgarian Communist Party, under the leadership of its prominent head, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, is the vanguard of the Bulgarian people and the inspirer of their persistent and dynamic efforts to build a developed socialist society in Bulgaria. Your Party, united with the progressive forces in the whole world, is fighting for lasting peace on the Balkans and in the world, as well as for social progress of mankind.

The Kampuchean people have followed with due respect the achievements of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian people at all stages of the construction of socialism in Bulgaria.

Thanks to the international proletarian co-operation with the fraternal people of Viet Nam, the people of Kampuchea succeeded in overthrowing, once and for all, the blood-stained regime of Pol Pot, Jeng Sari and Khien Samphan and is engaged today in transforming the beautiful land of Angkor into a new proletarian state – the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Under the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Party the revolutionary forces of Kampuchea enjoy the active support of the parties and the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries in particular – Viet Nam, the Soviet Union and the other countries in the world which value peace and justice.

Applying great efforts, the Kampuchean people, inspired and deeply convinced in the just political cause of our Party transform their country from the ruins left by the blood-stained regime of Pol Pot with the aim of normalising their life. The Peking Expansionists and reactionary circles in the countries of ASEAN as well as the other reactionary forces, conspire by supporting and fostering the remnants of the followers of Pol Pot, Jeng Sari and Khien Samphan and the other reactionary Khmers. Their bases are on Thai territory from where they lead extensive sabotage actions aimed at the liquidation of the Kampuchean revolution. But because they are helpless in their attempts to change the situation in Kampuchea by military means they started to plot foul manœuvres in order to tarnish the prestige of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the United Nations Organisation thus trying to use this international organisation as a screen for hiding their criminal actions against the Kampuchean people.

Notwithstanding all this Kampuchea is harmoniously developing in all areas. General and democratic elections were organised in order to restore the state institutions, in particular the National Assembly, the State Council and the Council of Ministers. The People's power is taking care of the welfare of the people, the agricultural production is gradually being increased. A certain number of industrial enterprises renewed their work. This year already 1.5 million school children attended classes; the studies at institutions of higher education were also renewed. the literacy campaign cove-

red the whole country. The national culture is being revived; from day to day the public health services improve.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea will advance decisively along the road of independence, peace, democracy and non-alignment along the road of socialism, actively contributing in this way to the preservation of the peace and stability in South-East Asia.

The Kampuchean people will continue to develop their traditional solidarity with all fraternal socialist countries and in particular with Viet Nam, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Our people are delighted that the relations of friendship, fraternal solidarity and co-operation between Kampuchea and Bulgaria develop incessantly in the interest of both nations, to the benefit of social progress, thus affirming the position of the two nations in the world.

Finally I would like to express our deep gratitude to Comrade Todor Zhivkov, for the invitation to take part in the celebration of this festive jubilee. I would like to extend to him personally, to the leaders of the Party and the State, to the entire Bulgarian people my best wishes for health, fiery energy and full success in the further construction of developed socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, carrying into effect the decisions of the Twelfth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the People's Republic of Bulgaria will march always together along the road of the victorious Marxism-Leninism.

Long live the friendship, the militant solidarity and the co-operation between the parties, the governments and the peoples of Kampuchea and Bulgaria.

**Pen Sovan, Secretary General
of the People's Revolutionary
Party of Kampuchea and
Chairman of the Council of
Ministers.**

TO

**TODOR ZHIVKOV, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, GRISHA FILIPOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BULGARIA, STANKO TODOROV CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

On the occasion of the celebrations for the 1300th Anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian State, we are sending you comrade, and through you to all the brotherly Bulgarian people affectionate greetings and good wishes.

For the past 13 centuries the Bulgarian people overcame a road filled with abstacles and different hardships, a road of heroic and continuous battles gave countless cherished victims for the strengthening and progress of its fatherland. Thanks to the continuous work and self-denying the Bulgarian people reached a considerable succes in its economic and cultural developement, contributing in the history of the Balkans and Europe.

After the victory of the socialist revolution the Bulgarian people reached considerable successes in the political, social, economical and cultural region. This is the most progressive period in the 13th century history of the Bulgarian State. For only 37 years the Bulga-

rian people turned its native land into an advanced industrial-agrarian country with a highly developed material and spiritual culture.

The historical celebration of the 1300th Anniversary is held in an atmosphere of high spirits, in the year of the XIIth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party and 90th Anniversary of the foundation of the Party, in a period when the Bulgarian nation expands her forces towards successful fulfilment of the 8th, 5 year plan for reaching even newer successes in the building of a developed socialist society and gives her contribution in the strengthening of peace and social progress.

We are sure that under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by comrade Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria will enter the 14th century with newer brilliant successes with a believe in a happy future.

Let it be that the relations between our two nations will strengthen and will continuously develop.

Kayson Fomvihan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Laos People's Revolutionary Party and Prime Minister of the Laos People's Democratic Republic
Sufanyvong, President of the Republic and Chairman of the Supreme National Assembly of the Laos People's Democratic Republic.

TO
COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL, SOFIA.

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,

On the historic occasion of the 13th centenary celebrations of the founding of the Bulgarian State, I would like, on behalf of the PMAC, the central committee of COPWE, the government and people of socialist Ethiopia and on my own behalf, to express warmest congratulations and best wishes to you personally and, through you, to the central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the state Council, the government and fraternal people of Bulgaria.

A cursory glance at Bulgaria's long history reveals a continuous chain of struggles and uprisings by the Bulgarian people against their exploiters and invaders, reflecting a deep-rooted tradition of resistance against injustice and sacrifice for the causes of freedom and social progress.

The Ethiopian people are fully aware of the great socio-economic transformation that has taken place in your nation's socialist development and have high regard for the people of Bulgaria who, under the guidance of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and your able leadership, have built a modern agro-industrial socialist state.

We are also gratified by the fact that the exchange of visits and personal contacts that have taken place at different levels, the signing of the treaty of friendship and co-operation and other specific co-operation agreements, as well as the establishment of the Ethio-

Bulgarian inter-governmental joint commission and the Ethio-Bulgarian friendship committee, have further consolidated the close relations and all round co-operation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and socialist Ethiopia.

In paying tribute to the dedicated, creative and heroic people of Bulgaria for their great achievements in the thirteen hundred years of their long history, more particularly in the past three and half decades of revolutionary transformation under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, I wish to express our confidence that the People's Republic of Bulgaria will achieve more prosperity and progress in the years ahead.

Please accept, dear Comrade, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

**Mengistu Haile-Mariam,
Chairman of the Provisional
Military Administrative Coun-
cil and of the commission for
organizing the Party of the
Working People of Ethiopia
and Commander-in-chief of
the Revolutionary Army of
Socialist Ethiopia.**

**THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE FRELIMO PARTY, THE
PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAM-
BIQUE MOST HEARTILY AND WARMLY GREET THE BULGARIAN
PEOPLE WITH THE GREAT HOLIDAY – THE 1300TH ANNI-
VERARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE BULGARIAN STATE.**

This celebration has historical importance and contributes to the consolidation of the feeling of respect around the world for the social, cultural, scientific and political contributions of the Bulgarian people in the realisation of the most noble ideals of mankind, in the affirmation of the eternal values in the history of the people.

In honour of the Bulgarian people and the Bulgarian Socialist State with which we are connected by strong ties of fraternal friendship and militant solidarity, we turned the celebration of the 1300th anniversary into a people's holiday and a contribution to the strengthening of the ties between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the People's Republic of Bulgaria on the basis of the principle of Marxism-Leninism.

Members of the Party leadership and the leadership of the Government, members of the leadership of the Mozambique Association for Friendship with the Peoples, leaders of the public mass organisation, internationalist Bulgarians working in Mozambique took part in the various activities of the programme for celebrating the 1300th anniversary, approved by the Central Committee of the FRELIMO Party.

In the addresses delivered at these celebrations and disseminated by the mass media all over the country, apart from the greetings addressed to the Bulgarian people in connection with the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state, the role of the Bulgarian Communist Party for the rapid development of Bulgaria after the victory over fascism was stressed.

Stressing the firm and dynamic leadership of President Zhivkov, a great friend of the Mozambique people, his part for the active and persistent participation of Bulgaria in the struggle against neocolo-

nialism, racism, zionism and racial separateness, for peace, justice and social progress was marked.

The celebrations of the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria ended with the naming of one of the capital's districts after the name of Georgi Dimitrov.

With the activities carried out in the People's Republic of Mozambique for marking this important event in the history of the Bulgarian people, the Central Committee of the FRELIMO Party, the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique express their respect to the Bulgarian people, to the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and confirm once more the feeling of friendship and solidarity which have connected our two peoples, parties and states.

For the victory of socialism!

For peace!

For progress!

The struggle continues!

Central Committee of the
FRELIMO Party Permanent
Commission of the People's
Assembly Government of the
People's Republic of Mozam-
bique.



Ball in the Hofburg-Palace in Vienna, dedicated to the 1300-years anniversary of Bulgaria

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

The Sandinist Front for National Liberation sends a fraternal and revolutionary greeting to the people, The Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on the occasion of the celebration of 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

The history of our two nations, replete with struggles and fighting spirit, our efforts to build a new society, social justice and peace in the world, strengthen our conviction that the ties of friendship, existing between, on the one hand, the people of Nicaragua, their historic vanguard – the Sandinist Front for National Liberation – and their government and on the other hand – the people,

the Communist Party and the government of the Motherland of Georgi Dimitrov, will become ever closer each passing day.

Now that the common enemy, the North American imperialism, threatens world peace by aggressive actions against Nicaragua and by interfering in the international affairs of Salvador and other countries in the world, it is necessary for all peoples to unite their efforts and to reject the warmongering and reckless policy of the government of the USA.

Our peoples fought in order to win peace. Now we have to defend and preserve it.

Bulgaria is a country which rendered Nicaragua its solidarity in support of our efforts for building a new society. We got acquainted with a fraternal country and identified ourselves with its people. Our friendly ties will deepen with every passing day.

Accept, dear brothers, most heartfelt and warm congratulations on the occasion of the completion of 1300 years since the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

We believe that with the entry upon the new century the goals set by your people, Party and Government will be reached.

Byardo Aroe Castano
Commandante of the Revolution, Coordinator of the Political Commission of the National Leadership of the Sandinist Front for National Liberation of Nicaragua.

TO
COMRADE STANKO TODOROV, CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state, I have the pleasant obligation to convey to you on behalf of my government and on my own behalf most cordial and warmest regards.

I avail myself of this opportunity to present to you on the eve of the new year my wishes for your personal happiness and for the prosperity of the Bulgarian people.

I wish the relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between our two countries to further develop for the benefit of our two nations, as well for the consolidation of the world peace.

With deepest respect,
Col. Louis-Sylven Goma, Head
of the Government of the
People's Republic of the Congo.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND
PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,

I'm sending you my cordial greetings and congratulations on the occasion of the celebrations of the 1300th anniversary. We are commemorating this anniversary as our own. It is part of the great his-



Placard "1300 years Bulgaria" by the artist Erny – Switzerland.

torical heritage of the Bulgarian people, who have accomplished heroic feats in their glorious history.

Their deeds in the name of freedom, progress and peaceful coexistence are of everlasting importance both for Bulgarian history and the history of mankind.

I congratulate you as a representative of all Bulgarian communists, workers and citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, people with whom we are closely related through the bonds of a common struggle.

The Yemen Socialist Party, the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and the people of Yemen share your joy at the 13th centenary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

The people of Yemen cherish deep respect for your country and highly value Bulgarian contribution to world civilization. We also hold in high esteem your rich historical heritage, preserved at the cost of thousands of lives. This heritage has formed the basis of your greatest achievement – the building of a developed socialist society.

We admire your great achievements and take keen interest in your history, full of heroic humanistic deeds. The centuries long experience of the Bulgarian people is of great help to our people who are fighting to destroy the remains of British colonialism and local feudalism. They are blazing a trail for a new society, forward-looking to socialism.

Since the very foundation of the Bulgarian State upon the rich and fertile lands of the Balkan Peninsula one could clearly trace the amazing ability of the Bulgarian people to create their own history. They have forged their national character, keen, vital, unyielding, in the process of driving back the forays of invaders and oppressors. They defeated the Byzantine attempts to deprive them of their freedom, language and culture. They created the Slavonic alphabet, thus not only preserving and developing their own language and culture, but also furnishing the rest of the Slav peoples with a powerful weapon for the development of their literature, science and culture.

The Bogomil movement, born and widely spread in Bulgaria, the Ivailo uprising, as well as many other upheavals were mass antifeudal movements that marked important milestones in the heroic struggle of the Bulgarian people. They showed the world that tyranny could not break their determination but just the opposite – it strengthened their power and fortitude, thus giving rise to the early Renaissance in Bulgaria, preceding European Renaissance.

Five centuries of Ottoman yoke was a bitter trial that reinforced the people's ability to preserve their originality and confirm their patriotism and revolutionary relations with other peoples.

The lives of Vasil Levski and Hristo Botev are examples to all generations because they reflect both the fighting spirit of the Bulgarian people and their revolutionary contribution to the struggle of mankind for freedom and progress.

Dimitar Blagoev and Georgi Dimitrov, their powerful theory and revolutionary activities exerted great influence upon the struggle of the Bulgarian and other peoples against fascism and capitalism. The theory of the United People's front is their great revolutionary contribution to the world progressive and communist movements. Together with the working class uprisings in 1923 and 1944 it inspired the broad masses of the people in their struggle for the destruction of capitalism, fascism and backwardness. This struggle was crowned with the victory of socialism in Bulgaria. The free Bulgarian people laid the foundations of a new life; bright socialist horizons burst upon them. Thus a living example was set for the other peoples to follow, peoples that were fighting for freedom,



Placard – gift from the P.L.O.

progress and socialism; for the victory of the working class and for the all round development of revolutionary relations and class solidarity.

To a certain extent the history of Yemen resembles Bulgarian history. The present life of the Republic of Yemen is inspired by rich historical traditions. The people here were the creators of one of the most ancient civilizations that has greatly contributed to the history of mankind.

Both people have experienced the horrors of tyranny, slavery and occupation but they have succeeded in preserving their roots and have survived for thousands of years. That is why it is only natural that the Yemen people should truly value and commemorate the anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State, which, as it is, confirms everything progressive in Bulgarian history, both the material and spiritual values created by the heroic Bulgarian people. Today we are witnesses to the consistent policy of socialist Bulgaria striving to confirm progressive values. We hold in high esteem the great achievements of the Bulgarian working class and the Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Our friendship with the Bulgarian people and the countries of the socialist community is bases on solid principles. It is growing stronger and is being constantly developed owing to the efforts of our party and the contributions of the leaders of the communist and workers' parties in these countries. We firmly believe that this true friendship will last forever because the struggle for socialism and consolidation of peace is the greatest and the most noble of aims set by mankind nowadays.

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,

Please accept on my behalf and on behalf of our party and our people feelings of deep regard towards you, your revolutionary party and your people, the creator of a glorious and heroic history.

Long live our friendship!

Long live our proletarian and international solidarity!

Ali Nassar Mohamed, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, President of the Presidium of the Supreme National Assembly and Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE
COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Dear Mr. President,

The celebration of the 1300th Anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state is an eulogy of values that as a result of a process of historical continuity and an unique cultural identity, maintained through the centuries, have created the Bulgarian nation. Therefore, such a celebration is greatly important in the field of the international co-existence.

In the course of these thirteen centuries, the distinctive features and the internationalistic vocation that characterized the Bulgarian state have been formed, and those are typical for its past, as well as for its new and fruitful stage of social development.

Our nations that are similar in a number of aspects, among other



The warrior Coyote state gift of the United States of Mexico original monument of the Aztec culture.

things in their original mixing of cultures, have their roots from a long history of assimilation of nations and civilizations that make the basis of identity, including the features of the East and the West.

The decisive necessity for reconstruction of a convulsive international system finds its support in the historical strive of nations like the Bulgarian and Mexican to define their participation in the international life.

Mexico shares the joy of your people from the celebration of the anniversary.

I am asking you, Mr. President, to accept and convey to the government and the noble Bulgarian people the warmest congratulations that I am entitled to express for the people and the government of Mexico.

March 12, 1981.

Jose Lopez Portillo, President of the United States of Mexico.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

On the occasion of the celebrations for the 1300th anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state I extend to you and the Bulgarian people most sincere congratulations and wishes for a peaceful and happy future.

Karl Carstens, President of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Relations between the Republic of Austria and the People's Republic of Bulgaria are inspired by mutual trust, filled with friendly spirit and directed to a peaceful future.

Austria gladly joins the celebration of the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria.

As a Federal President of the Republic of Austria I extend my congratulations to the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people on the occasion of this anniversary that is so unique in the history of the nations and I wish the Bulgarian people in the years to come happiness, every success and peace!

Dr. Rudolf Kirchschläger, Federal President of the Republic of Austria.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

I have the honour to address to you, Mr. President of the State Council, and through you to the Bulgarian people, warmest congratulations on this historic occasion – the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

Urho Kekkonen, President of the Republic of Finland.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

The celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state gives me the pleasant opportunity to send you, Mr. President, on my own behalf and that of the government and the people of Spain my friendly greetings and most sincere good wishes.

I admire the lofty example of heroism the Bulgarian people set before the world during their continuous and bitter struggle for national liberation and consolidation.

I avail myself of the opportunity to send to Your Excellency and to the Bulgarian people my best wishes for health and happiness.

Juan Carlos I, King of Spain.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

On the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state I extend to Your Excellency my sincere congratulations and best wishes for prosperity and flourishing of the Bulgarian people.

Olav V, King of Norway.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCE MR. TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
SOFIA.

Mr. President,

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State, I would like to extend to Your Excellency and to the friendly Bulgarian people my most sincere congratulations.

Turkey wishes sincerely that neighbouring Bulgaria develops in prosperity and happiness and welcomes the progress accomplished by the Bulgarian people.

On this occasion, I would like to express once again my conviction that Turkish-Bulgarian relations will further develop in future for the benefit of both countries and they will contribute for the establishment of an atmosphere of confidence and cooperation on the Balkans, as well as in the whole world.

State gift of Turkey



Army General Kenan Evren,
Head of State of the Republic
of Turkey.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, SOFIA.

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian State, I have great pleasure in greeting you and the people of Bulgaria and to wish all happiness and prosperity to the Bulgarian people. I warmly recall my own visit to Bulgaria last year and the talks had with you as well as other leaders of Bulgaria.

Once again, I express my good wishes for your excellency's health and happiness and for the further development of Indo-Bulgarian friendship and well-being of the people of Bulgaria.

Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy,
President of India.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state I convey, on behalf of the government and of the Cypriot people, as well as on my own behalf, our heartfelt greetings and warm congratulations.

This anniversary, the summit of a long historical lift, testifies to your people's patriotism and their attachment of their national independence and freedom.

I would like once again to express our appreciation and gratitude for the continuous support rendered to Cyprus. We interpret this support not only as an expression of friendship towards the Cypriot people but also as a proof of your attachment to the ideals of justice, freedom and peace.

I wish Your Excellency health and happiness; and the Bulgarian people – progress and prosperity.

Pending our forthcoming meeting in Sofia I express my sentiments of deepest respect for you.

The bearer of this letter, Mr. Georgios Ioannides, Chairman of the Steering Committee for celebrating the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian state, will convey to you personally our feelings and will inform you of the development of the Cypriot problem.

Spiros Kiprianou, President of the Republic of Cyprus.

TO

TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state on behalf of the Party, the government and the people of Zambia, and on my own behalf, I would like to convey our sincere and heartfelt congratulations to you, Comrade President, and through you, to the people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian history is rich in heroic struggles and successes. We think of the Ninth of September, 1944 as a memorable day when the Socialist Revolution of the people of your country triumphed.

We in Zambia take pride in having friendly relations with such

people, who are strongly determined to develop their country. You have achieved remarkable successes. Your personal wholeheartedness and wise leadership are a source of inspiration for the Bulgarian people. Your Excellency's efforts are aimed at a distinct working out, an active application and strengthening of the socialist achievements, which turned Bulgaria into an industrial-agrarian state with highly developed science and culture.

The people of Zambia enjoy the warm and heartfelt relations existing between our two friendly peoples.

Wishing Your Excellency good health, we hope that we shall continue to consolidate jointly these warm relations which are leading us to a good economic and technical co-operation.

Kenneth Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of celebrating the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state we have pleasure in conveying to your people, Party and government the sincere congratulations of the Guinean people, Party and State, as well as my personal greetings. We follow with great interest and admiration the remarkable achievements of your country – the result of the persistent efforts of your hardworking people whom we wish still new successes in the realization of their noble aspirations.

We avail ourselves of this happy opportunity to confirm our wish and readiness to continue to develop and strengthen steadily the relations of friendship and beneficial co-operation existing between our two countries.

Please accept our wishes for happiness and prosperity which we address to You personally and to the Bulgarian people.

Ahmed Sekou Toure, President of People's revolutionary Republic of Guinea

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TODOR ZHIVKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, SOFIA, BULGARIA.

On the auspicious occasion marking the thirteenth centennial jubilee of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, it is my great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency on behalf of the government and people of Malta and on my own behalf warm felicitations and best wishes for Your Excellency's well-being and for the continued welfare of your people.

Whilst sharing your rejoicing on this memorable occasion we look forward to closer cooperation and to the further strengthening of our ties of friendship for the continued progress of our two peoples.

Anton Buttigieg, President of the Republic of Malta.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

In connection with your noble country's celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state please accept, Your Excellency, the heartfelt congratulations of the Ecuadorian people and government, as well as my personal congratulations. I would like to express my wishes for further prosperity of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

I avail myself of the opportunity to confirm the fraternal ties existing between our peoples and to express to Your Excellency the conviction that the friendship between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Ecuador will develop within the framework of the international community. I also take the opportunity of renewing to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest respects.

Dr. Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea,
Constitutional President of
Ecuador.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

State gift of Ethiopia.

The 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state is for me a pleasant occasion to extend to you, on this happy day, my warmest congratulations and best wishes for prosperity and progress of the Bulgarian state, as well as for happiness – to you personally and to the friendly Bulgarian people.

Habib Bourgiba, President of
the Republic of Tunisia.



TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Regarding highly the historical importance of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state we are happy to congratulate you most sincerely on the occasion of your holiday.

Our people, being faithful true to their respect for the history and the heritage of all peoples in the world, for their constructive contribution in the human civilization, are aware of and highly estimate the cultural and humanistic essence of this holiday. On behalf of our people, on behalf of Iraq – the cradle of the Babylonian,



A golden palm – gift of the President of Iraq.

Assyrian and the Arab – Islamic civilization, we congratulate you on the occasion of this national and historic holiday, wishing you good health and happiness; and the friendly Bulgarian people – everlasting progress and prosperity.

The relations of sound friendship and beneficial co-operation between our two countries, based on mutual respect, good will and common interests, express our people's will to strengthen their relations of common fighting spirit, to further develop their struggle against imperialism, zionism, racism and to consolidate world peace and security.

We are confident that these relations will develop further and further in the interest of our two countries.

We wish you success and ask you to accept our most sincere congratulations.

Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On behalf of the Kuwait people and my own behalf I take pleasure in sending heartfelt congratulations to Your Excellency and to the friendly Bulgarian people in connection with the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express my high appreciation of Your Excellency's noble activity for the welfare of your people as well as for strengthening the friendly relations between our countries and peoples.

Sheikh Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait.

TO
TODOR ZHIKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of celebrating the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state the people of Sri Lanka send to you and to the Bulgarian people their warmest congratulations and sincere felicitations for lasting peace and prosperity in the coming years.

Junius Richard Jayawardene, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On my own behalf, on behalf of the Party, the Government and the people of Guyana I have pleasure in extending to you, to the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government and the people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria my fraternal, heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

In its long and rich history the Bulgarian people have achieved brilliant progress. I am confident that in the coming years, under the banner of socialism, it will achieve still greater successes. I believe that the friendly heartfelt relations existing between our two countries will develop furthermore in the future.

I avail myself of this pleasant opportunity to wish you good health, and to the People's Republic of Bulgaria – further prosperity and progress.

Linden F.C. Burnham, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL JUBILEE COMMITTEE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 1300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE BULGARIAN STATE, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of the celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state I convey the sincere congratulations of the Swedish government and the Swedish people.

Thornbjorn Faelldin, Prime Minister of Sweden.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY GRISHA FILIPOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, SOFIA.

On the occasion of the celebration of the 1300th Anniversary of the Bulgarian State please accept, Your Excellency, on behalf of the Danish Government, my cordial congratulations and best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the Bulgarian people.

Anker Jorgensen, Prime Minister of Denmark.

TO
COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

On the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the creation of the first Bulgarian state I extend to Your Excellency my warmest congratulations and send wishes for the Bulgarian people's prosperity and happy future.

Juan – The Great Duke of Luxembourg.

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

In connection with the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state we take pleasure in sending to Your Excellency

our warmest congratulations and in expressing most heartfelt wishes for a successful development and progress of the people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with which the Republic of San Marino is connected with relations of sincere friendship.

**Marlo Rossi, Ubaldo Biordi,
Capitani - Regenti of the
Republic of San Marino.**

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,

On the occasion of the 13th centennial of the Bulgarian state I avail myself of the opportunity to extend my warm greetings to You personally and to express my admiration with the heroic Bulgarian people.

Studying the successes of your great people I was deeply impressed by the spirit, the strife for progress and the diligence with which the People's Republic of Bulgaria reached the present glorious 1981 jubilee year.

I would like, Comrade President, on my own behalf and on behalf of my government, to add our greetings to the congratulations sent by the world community on the occasion of the jubilee.

I can assure you, Comrade President, that we support the programmes of socialist construction of your country and regard very highly the remarkable successes it has already achieved. Bulgaria demonstrated to the international community what big social successes can be won when the stress in applying the socialist principles is being put on the requirements and the will of the people.

I would make an omission, Comrade President, unless I do not mention the ties of solidarity existing between our two governments. I am confident that this process will continue.

Within a short period our two governments succeeded in elaborating areas of mutual co-operation and in concluding rapid bilateral agreements.

Once more, Comrade President, I extend to you my most sincere greetings – on my own behalf and on behalf of the government of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

**Robert G. Mugabe, Prime
Minister of the Republic of
Zimbabwe.**

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Esteemed Mr. President Zhivkov,

On behalf of the People's Revolutionary Government, the people of Grenada and on my own behalf I convey to you, the Government and the people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria our sincere greetings for the historical and remarkable occasion of the 13th centennial of the Bulgarian state.

The long and proud history of the successful struggle of your



Porcelain vase – state gift of France.

people against foreign domination, and for freedom, peace, social justice and economic development, is a historic example for the developing countries like Grenada which have recently set themselves free from the centuries-old imperialistic colonial domination and exploitation.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express our deep gratitude for the considerable brotherly assistance which your government and the heroic Bulgarian people render to the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada. This assistance proves once again that you observe the principles of internationalism firmly and steadfastly.

We have organised in Grenada some political and other forms of celebrating the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

Once more I convey to you, the government and the people of the People's Republic of Bulgaria my warmest congratulations on this renowned occasion and hope that the relations of friendship and co-operation between our two governments and peoples will continue to strengthen.

Moris Bishop, Prime Minister of Grenada.

I am very pleased to extend congratulations to the Government and people of Bulgaria on the occasion of the 13th centennial of the Bulgarian State. Together with you I pay tribute to the heroic deed of the founders of the State and their successors throughout the ages who fought for preserving their people's national identity and statehood.

The history of a nation is a chronicle of defeats and victories, of struggles and achievements. This is particularly true of nations like the Bulgarian, existing for more than one thousand years. A jubilee like the one you are celebrating today, is a proof of the resistance and endurance of the human spirit, of its persistent aspiration towards national independence. Besides, in our time such a jubilee underscores the role of peace as a necessary prerequisite for a nation's life and progress. The coming, after World War Two, of a constructive stage in Bulgaria's national deed, and the achievement of remarkable economic successes, would not be possible without peace and friendship with the other nations. Nowadays, nations can best realize their aspirations for a better and happier future only on the basis of mutual cooperation.

Since it entered the United Nations 26 years ago, Bulgaria has actively participated in our collective efforts for strengthening world peace and security, for justice and progress. I am happy, on this historic occasion, to formulate to the Bulgarian people best wishes for welfare and prosperity.

Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General of the United Nations Organisation

The 13th centennial of the Bulgarian State is a historical date. By underscoring its importance, the General Conference of UNESCO at its XXI session held last year in Belgrade, adopted unanimously a resolution expressing the assurance that the celebration of this anniversary would contribute to a better understanding among nations in the world, and called upon the member States to take part in it.



Statuette of an elephant – gift of the Prime minister of India – Indira Gandhi.

To the General Secretary of UNESCO – as a United Nations organization that is specialized in such important fields as education, science and culture – the celebration of this jubilee is a happy occasion to pay tribute to the contribution of the Bulgarian State, as one of Europe's oldest States, to the world's historic and cultural development.

Situated right in the centre of the Balkan Peninsula, and inheritor of high civilizations which had endowed it with a freedom-loving, peace-loving spirit, the Bulgarian nation has resisted the ups and downs of history and the vicissitudes of centuries-old foreign domination, and thanks to the daring and creative genius of its people it has preserved its dignity, national and cultural originality and centuries-old traditions.

Bulgaria, which was considered at the end of World War Two as an exclusively agrarian State, and which ranked among the poorest in Europe, has marked an exceptional progress in the economic, social and cultural fields, as a result of the radical reconstruction of the country, and of the selfless efforts of all of its people.

To-day, Bulgaria is one of the most active members of UNESCO; it steadily increases its contribution to the activities of this Organization, on the basis of its ideals and of its own deep conviction in the role of international co-operation for peace, progress and understanding among nations.

I feel happy, Mr. President of the State Council of the P.R. of Bulgaria, on the occasion of the 13th centennial of the foundation of the Bulgarian State, to extend to you, on behalf on UNESCO and in my own name, most sincere congratulations and warmest greetings for happiness and prosperity of the Bulgarian people.

**Amadou Mahtar M'Bow,
Secretary General of UNESCO.**

**TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.**

In connection with the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state which gives the Bulgarian people an opportunity to celebrate a long and rich historical and cultural period His Holiness Pope John II has entrusted me with the commission to convey to Your Excellency His warm wishes for the prosperity of your noble people and the particular stress He puts on the ancient and precious spiritual and cultural heritage bequeathed by the Apostles Cyril and Methodius.

Subscribing to these wishes I would like to assure Your Excellency of my highest consideration.

**Cardinal Augustino Casarolli,
Secretary of State of the
Vatican.**

**TO
COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY.**

Dear Comrade Zhivkov,

On the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state we would like to extend to you our warmest and



Fur of a leopard – gift from Zimbabwe.

brotherly congratulations.

This remarkable anniversary that the communists and the entire Bulgarian people are delighted and proud to celebrate, attains an exceptional importance, as it brings together your history full of hopes and struggles for liberty and independence, culture and traditions, with the building of a new, socialist society which has succeeded in raising to unknown heights the material prosperity, culture, science, social, economical and spiritual development of the Bulgarian people.

Our party, Comrade Dolores Ibarruri and I personally join the celebration of that jubilee, as we wish your people, the communists and you – the leader of the Bulgarian Communist Party, to achieve new, more notable successes.

With brotherly greetings,

Dolores Ibarruri, Chairman of the Spanish Communist Party.

Santiago Carrillo, Secretary General of the Spanish Communist Party.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY, MR. PETAR TOSHEV MLADENOV, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, SOFIA.

Your Excellency,

Quito, July 3, 1981

On behalf of the Government of Ecuador I have the special honour to deliver by means of Your Excellency, greetings to the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria which completes 1300 years from its formation as a state.

The Bulgarian people are rich with their thousand years of traditions of many ethnic groups and civilizations, which represent considerable contribution so that today different nations can represent themselves with their solid and authentic identity. It is enough to recall that the born in Bulgaria alphabet of Cyril and Methodius now acts as a mutual contact of the different languages of Eastern Europe.

In the continuous struggle for your national freedom, your country had to hold out with incomparable spirit and courage rejection of the oppressor and foreign domination till it could rise to a state in its present height, worthy to be proud with the political changes and national independence.

Ecuador, as a country that loves peace and respects the common with Bulgaria principle for self-determination of the people, joins the happiness of your Socialist Republic in the days when it completes 13 centuries as an independent state.

Please accept Your Excellency the assurances of my highest considerations.

**Alfonso Barrera Valverde,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Ecuador.**

A JUBILEE MESSAGE OF THE SENATE OF PERU

The Senate of the Republic taking into consideration:

- that during the running year and more correctly during the month of October the Bulgarian people will celebrate the 1300th Anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state;
- that on this occasion it is fair to congratulate the Bulgarian nation and to remind its contribution in the field of culture, science and the creative thought, its contribution to the development of mankind and to the progress and to cause of peace;
- that in its entire history the Bulgarian people have protected their national identity, overcoming difficulties beset by its complicated geographic situation, by wars and invasions, reaching in our days a highest level of industrial and agricultural development;
- that Peru maintains friendly relations with Bulgaria, realized in the sphere of the diplomatic relations, in signing of trade agreements, in the economic, scientific and cultural cooperation that are beneficial for the two countries.

DECIDES:

1. To congratulate the Bulgarian people on the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state and to express good wishes for their further permanent development and for the improvement of the relations of peace and friendship between Peru and Bulgaria.
2. The congratulations of the Senate of Peru to be conveyed to the President of Bulgaria, Mr. Todor Zhivkov.

Lima, October 14, 1981.

TO

THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL JUBILEE COMMITTEE,
C/O H.E. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GEORGI YORDANOV.

Oct. 20th, 1981

On the occasion of the 1300 years anniversary of the founding and unification of Bulgaria I extend greetings from Iceland to the Bulgarian people.

The distances between our countries are vast, one country is a barren island in the North-Atlantic and the other a fertile agricultural country on the Balkan peninsula, and the population of Iceland is only 220 thousand but the Bulgarians total almost nine million. In spite of those differences these two countries have many things in common, a healthy national culture, creative talents and an urge for progress. The Bulgarians and the Icelanders have also had the common experience of living for centuries under foreign rule which weighed on them like a yoke of slavery. A yoke which did not induce a servile mentality but instead strengthened the peoples love of their country and their desire for peace and freedom.

With the wish that peace may reign throughout the world, that all nations may live free in their homelands and that culture and economic stability may thrive in all regions of the earth, I repeat my greetings to the Bulgarian people on this auspicious occasion.

Ingvar Gíslason, Minister of
Culture and Education of
Iceland.

**ADDRESS OF
THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE VIENNA MEETING "1300 YEARS
BULGARIA" TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONVEYED THROUGH
THE HEAD OF THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION.**

Your Excellency,

The remarkable and unique for Europe event of the history of the Bulgarian people – the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria's statehood – was a propitious and welcome occasion for the Austrian National Committee to organize on 25 - 26 February a meeting of the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of the National Jubilee Committees from 19 countries. We convened at this meeting to emphasize the importance of this great anniversary, to exchange information and experience on the activities of the National Committees which popularize the jubilee in each individual country, and to establish mutually beneficial contacts.

The fact that so many countries have set up National Jubilee Committees with the noble aim to give their share in the popularization of your country's and nation's memorable jubilee, is itself an expression of respect for the centuries-old history of the Bulgarian people who have managed to preserve throughout the centuries their spirit, language, script and culture in order to take a befitting place in the modern history of mankind. At the same time, the jubilee activities of the National Committees are also an eloquent proof of the desire and preparedness of the broad public in the various countries to stimulate – through the better mutual knowledge of peoples and through the active exchange of spiritual and material values – the further expansion and promotion of mutually advantageous relations and cooperation with the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the interest of a better mutual understanding.

Through its participation, Bulgaria has committed itself to the most progressive goals of the peoples the world over: the prosperity of the working people, social justice and, first and foremost, the safeguarding of the long-cherished by everybody world peace.

Gathered in the capital city of Austria, Vienna, we, the representatives of 19 West-European countries, wish to express our friendly feelings and respect for your country and nation on the occasion of this auspicious event in the history of the Bulgarian State. In this context, may we convey to you personally, distinguished Mr. President of the State Council, most cordial regards and best wishes for good health, happiness and every success in your highly responsible and humane activities, while to the friendly Bulgarian people we extend our most sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity.

Vienna, February 25, 1981

**TO
RESOLUTION OF THE 21th SESSION OF THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE OF UNESCO – 1980
THE 1300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BULGARIAN STATE**

The General Conference,

Noting that one of the basic objectives of Unesco is to acquaint world public opinion with the history, achievements and positive experience of the Member States in the spheres of competence of the Organization and specifically in the sphere of the contribution of Member States to the cultural development of mankind,

In accordance with the resolution adopted at its eighteenth

session concerning the celebration of anniversaries of great events and personalities that have contributed to the development of the culture and civilization of mankind,

Recognizing the contribution of one of the oldest States in Europe – the Bulgarian State – to the development of world historical processes during its thirteen centuries of existence,

Convinced that the celebration of this 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State will contribute to better understanding among the peoples of the world,

1. *Appeals* to the Member States of Unesco to mark this anniversary in a suitable manner;

2. *Invites* the Director-General to promote and support programme activities for marking the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State and to support the initiatives of the Member States in this respect.

It's especially pleasing as a representative of Nigeria and all the African people to share the joy of Bulgaria – one of the most outstanding states, existing from ancient times till our days – on the occasion of her 1300th Anniversary.

A big satisfaction for Africa generates the fact that she is connected with Bulgaria, whose economy is developing with a remarkable tempo. The technical progress in your country is also a source of inspiration for the whole African continent.

The trade and economical relations between Bulgaria and Africa have as an aim to establish lasting and strong contacts, to find suitable forms of a long-term mutual advantageous collaboration. The basic principle from which Bulgaria is guided in her relations with the African countries, is to contribute for the carrying out of this economical policy and to form two-way mutual governmental committees, which would be occupied with all aspects of the economical and scientifically-technical collaboration. Now there are 22 such committees between Bulgaria and the African countries.

Our economical cooperation is continually reinforcing and it includes planning and deliveries of complete objects, technical and technological exploitation of our deposits and the building of reservoirs and irrigation systems. In the last years was reposed the beginning of the interigation of the scientific potential of Bulgaria with some African countries. In Angola, Mozambique, Libya and Algeria were opened bureaus for joined research and planning of the meliorative equipment, and in Libya, Tunisia and Algeria – centers for architectural planning. This practice will spread in other countries that show interest toward this kind of collaboration: Tanzania, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Benin.

Besides that more than 3500 highly qualified Bulgarian specialists – engineers, doctors, agronomists, teachers in the institutions of higher and middle education – pass their knowledge and experience and help for the realization of the social-economic programs of a number of other African countries.

Maybe the question will arise of why the African-Bulgarian friendship is continually strengthening. The answer to this question combines many factors, among which one stands out the most, the respect for the sovereignty and the independence for every country. Besides this Bulgaria has always rendered practical aid and moral assistance in the Freedom Movement in Africa.

It must be mentioned that for many important for humanity problems Africa and Bulgaria had and have the same point of view. Nigeria, as well as Africa as a whole, have need for help, so that Namibia can be freed, and the racist regime of the minority of South Africa be convinced to take steps for the removal of the struc-

Fretwork – gift from Tanzania.



ture of the racist discrimination and opening the road toward building a multi race society, established on the principle: One man – One voice. This will prevent the horrors of war and the pointless death of many people.

On behalf of all the Nigerian people and all peaceloving people in Africa we wish the People's Republic of Bulgaria more and newer successes. Happy 13th century jubilee!

Greeting from Doctor Olusolla Saraki, Nigeria, delivered at the ceremonial meeting in the People's Palace of Culture in Sofia, dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian State.

TO
NATIONAL JUBILEE COMMITTEE FOR CELEBRATION OF THE
1300th ANNIVERSARY FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE
BULGARIAN STATE, SOFIA.

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian state we extend to you warm regards and wish you a prosperity for the Bulgarian people and continuous improvement of the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Bulgarian peoples.

Peking, October 16, 1981.

Society of the Chinese people for Friendship with Foreign Countries.



State gift of Italy

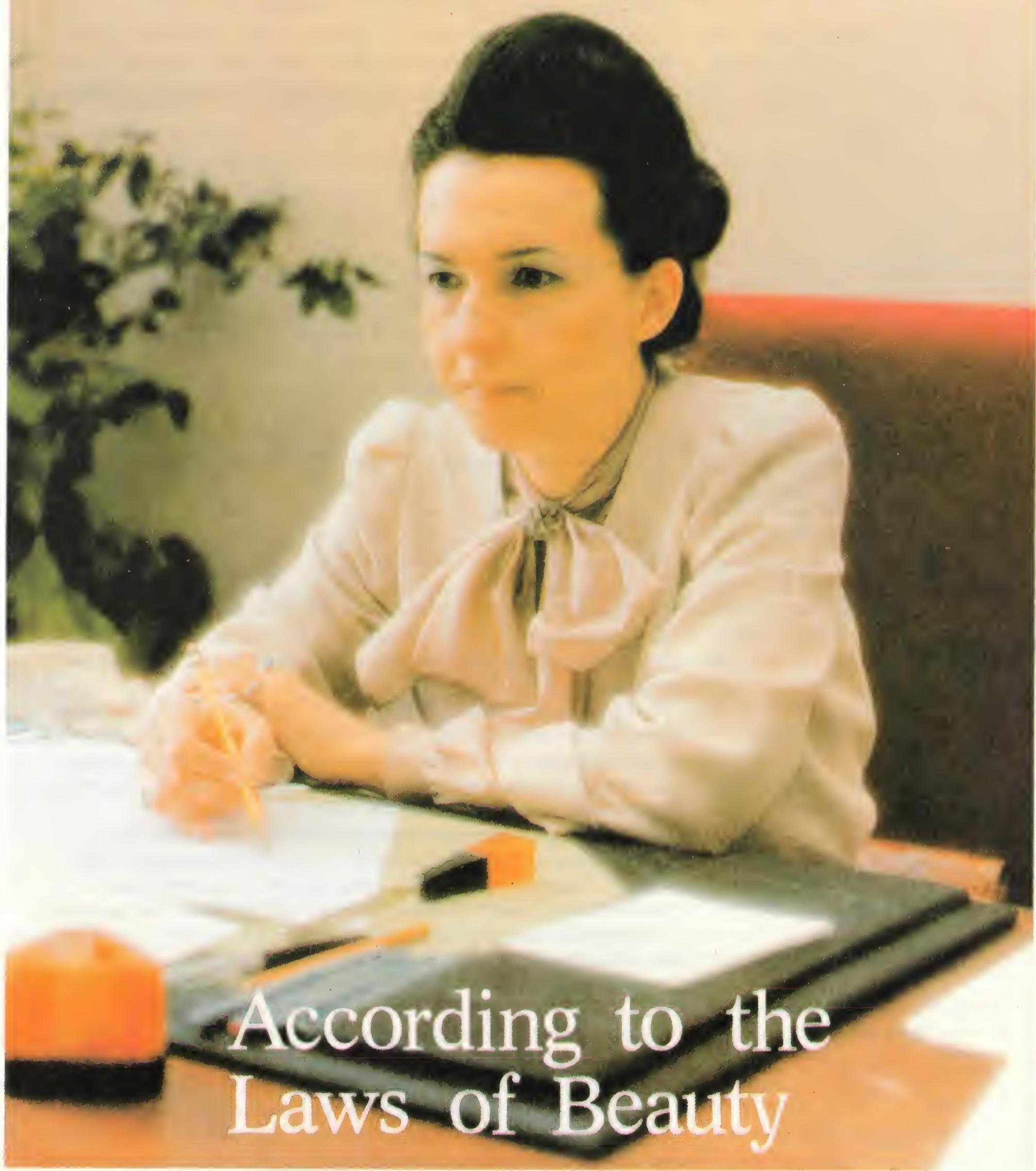
THE
NETHERLANDS
CONGRATULATES
BULGARIA

TODOR ZHIVKOV



**VREDE, DEMOCRATIE
EN SOCIALISME**

LYUDMILA ZHIVKOVA



According to the
Laws of Beauty

FOREWORD TO THE BOOK "ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF BEAUTY" BY LYUDMILA ZHIVKOVA, PUBLISHED OCTOBER 1981.

The Bulgarian State, which has reached the thirteen-century peak of its existence, takes an active part in contemporary international cultural exchange. In recent years it has been realizing cultural cooperation which has been made subservient to the principled agreements contained in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference of 1975.

In the People's Republic of Bulgaria today exceptionally dynamic cultural processes can be observed, ones closely linked with the unfolding of the creative abilities of the people and ever more fully meeting their cultural needs, processes in which the active participation, the contribution and effectivity of art and culture in the building of the socialist society, in the allround formation of the new human personality, can be clearly discerned.

It is unquestionable that the theory and practice of this dynamic cultural development is increasingly drawing the attention of the broad public both at home and abroad. Many new ideas are being born in the spiritual life of the people and are being realized extremely quickly. All this renders it necessary to make these ideas widely known, as well as the way in which they are embodied in concrete form in the practice of the everyday cultural life, through the written word in the chronological order of their evolution.

This book by Lyudmila Zhivkova, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and President of the Committee for Culture, which is now presented to the attention of readers, focuses in its title – Perfecting man and Society – the basic problem which passes like a directed ray of light through all the published material.

The collection contains in chronological order Lyudmila Zhivkova's statements, reports, articles and speeches in the 1972-1980 period. Most of them have been published in Bulgarian and foreign newspapers, magazines and collections, and others have been included as verbatim reports.

Thematically the collection covers a number of the principal problems of cultural life, which since 1966 has been developing on the basis of the public-State principle, a process which has given Bulgarian culture the possibility of following a true and original course.

The system of cultural management has been further perfected around the nucleus of the public-State principle, which at this stage led to the creation in 1974 of a new higher form of organization – the national complex *Art, Culture and the Mass Media*. The purposiveness and effectiveness of this solution, new in principle, which has promoted the development and enriched the public-State principle in the management of cultural processes, creating an "open system", subject to continual development, have been eloquently confirmed by public practice in recent years. The development and realization of all this can be chronologically followed in the writings of Lyudmila Zhivkova during this period of time.

The other extremely important problems treated in the materials published in the collection are related to the nationwide programme for the aesthetical education of the Bulgarian people. These are problems of the allround and harmonious development of the personality, problems of the awakening and realization of the creative talent and abilities of every man, problems of acquiring knowledge of the laws of beauty, the problem of the unity between the past, present and future – a problem viewed in light of the celebration of the



The round church of Tsar Simeon, called the golden church, is one of the best known architectural monuments of the First Bulgarian State (893-971)

1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian State – as well as problems of cultural cooperation among the peoples, and numerous concrete questions in the spiritual sphere.

Special note should be made of the elaborations of the ideas of the "Banner of Peace" Assembly, first held in Sofia in 1979, which the UNO proclaimed International Year of the Child. These ideas are increasingly merging into one common stream the efforts and endeavours of the creators and the broad public, efforts directed towards the realization of the eternal human quest for self-development and self-perfection. The essence of these ideas is expressed and concentrated in the motto "UNITY, CREATIVITY, BEAUTY", a formulation proposed by Lyudmila Zhivkova.

B.R. Grüner Publishing Co.
Amsterdam.

INTRODUCTION

In 1981 Bulgaria celebrates the 1300th Anniversary of the creation of its state. The Chairman of the State Council of the P.R. of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov, who already more than a quarter of a century is leading his people on the way to communism, becomes 70 years old also in this year.

Those two important events stimulated us to offer the Dutch reader this book of Todor Zhivkov "Peace, Democracy and Socialism".

Born in a poor peasant family, starting to work as a printer, an active participant in the anti-fascist struggle and in the partisan movement, Todor Zhivkov is an eminent and highly respected state and party functionary and continuer of the life-work of Georgi Dimitrov. An expression of the great popularity of Todor Zhivkov as outstanding theoretician and organizer of the practical socialism is the fact that his works are published in the countries of all the continents.

The here introduced to the readers book "Peace, Democracy and Socialism" contains reports, speeches and statements of Todor Zhivkov from the recent 10 years and they are dealing with the theory and practice of the building of socialist society in Bulgaria.

They are considering in a creative and profound way basic questions of the social, political, economical and cultural life of Bulgaria, such as the perfection of the socialist management of labour, improvement of the living standard of the people, the development of the socialist democracy, etc.

In the here collected works of Todor Zhivkov is underlined the peaceful foreign policy of Bulgaria which is directed to consolidation of easing up, to stopping of the arms race and to strengthening of peace and security on the Balkans, in Europa and the whole world.

The publication of this book, we consider also as a contribution to the bilateral understanding and friendship between Holland and the Bulgarian people.

Publishing House
Gruener B.V., Amsterdam.



Dear Mr. Zhivkov,

On September 9, 1981, your country will celebrate a unique occasion. On that day it will be 1300 years ago that the Bulgarian state was founded. A memorable anniversary!

I wish to extend to you my warmest congratulations, also on behalf of the members of the Dutch Committee that was founded to celebrate in good cooperation with the Bulgarian embassy at the Hague this anniversary in Holland.

May the friendship between our countries flourish and, if possible, be even strengthened in the future. May we work together for friendship, for peace and prosperity, for many, many years to come.

7th September 1981

Yours sincerely,

Hoornaar

M. W. Schakel

Chairman of the Dutch Committee for the celebration of the 1300th anniversary of the state Bulgaria.



Old map of Bulgaria – state gift of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

TO

MR. STANKO TODOROV, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, SOFIA.

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to congratulate you on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state.

May the tread running from the past, through the present and to the future never be broken and the process of spiritual advancement, of enrichment of the national ethos, of accumulation of energy for constructive labour never be stopped.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

The President of the Second Chamber of the States General

Dirk Dolman

TO

MR. P. TANCHEV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE BULGARIAN
AGRARIAN PARTY.
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE STATE-COUNCIL OF BULGARIA.

Dear Mr. Tanchev,

May 14, 1981

On behalf of the PPR (the Dutch Radical Democratic Party) it is a pleasure and a honour for me to congratulate you and the Bulgarian Agrarian Party with the 3th Congress.

At the moment that also in the Netherlands we are celebrating the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state, one of the oldest states in Europe, the ties between both countries are very strong and in contemporary progress of development.

With satisfaction the PPR reminds the cooperation between the Agrarian Party and the PPR already during many years in favour of the both cause of progressive development in the field of European peace and cooperation, in the field of economic and trade relations between both parts of Europe and in the field of international culture.

It is true what has been said in the Address to the Bulgarian people on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state: "Never before has Bulgaria had so many friends in all corners of the planet. Never before has she enjoyed such stable and prestigious positions in the Balkans, in Europe and in the rest of the world. Her principles peace-loving and constructive policy is a major factor of peace and security in our geographic region."

Again I will congratulate you with the 3th Congress of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party.

Sincerely yours,

Drs. Ria Beckers - de Bruijn
Political leader
of the PPR

TO

H.E. MR. N. PAPASOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COMMITTEE
FOR SCIENCE, SOFIA.

Your Excellency,

's-Gravenhage, 24th September 1981

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you cordially on behalf of the Brinkman company, on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary from the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

Through the years that we were doing business with your country we have learned to like your people and admire what is being done for the future prosperity of the P.R. of Bulgaria.

May we wish you and your country further successes and we do hope that the relations between our countries will continue to develop in future in a most satisfactory way.

Your cordially,

C. Brinkman, President

F.W. van Geest, Export-
Director

I. Dimitrov e.a.

Geschiedenis van Bulgarije

elsevier manteau

*een mens, al leeft bij goed,
sterft
en een ander wordt geboren.*



"The History of Bulgaria"
in Dutch published by
publishing house "Elsevier
Manteau" 1981

ROMAN CITIES IN BULGARIA Collected Studies

by
V. VELKOV

To Živka



ADOLF M. HAKKERT – PUBLISHER – AMSTERDAM
1980

"Anthology of Bulgarian prose"
in Dutch published by "Masereelfonds" December 1980

The Netherlands — Bulgaria

**TRACES
OF RELATIONS
THROUGH
THE CENTURIES**

**Material
from Dutch Archives
and Libraries
on Bulgarian History
and on Dutch Contacts
with Bulgaria**

Dedicated
to the 1300th anniversary
of Bulgaria

kreatief

literair-en kunstcritisch tijdschrift



**ELISAVETA
BAGRJANA
GEDICHTEN**

Vertaald uit het Bulgaars
en van een nawoord voorzien
door Jan Paul Hinrichs



CAHIERS VAN DE LANTAARN NO.8

*Book of poetry
by Elisaveta Bagriana
translated in Dutch,
published in 1981 by
the publishing house
"De Lantaarn" — Leiden*

*"Kreatief"
Literary and art critical review.
Number on Bulgarian prose and
poetry dedicated to the 1300th
anniversary of Bulgaria —
published in Wevelgem in Dutch
language — June 1981*



*Statuette of Erasmus of Rotterdam
– gift from the municipality of
Rotterdam – the Netherlands*

TO
TODOR ZHIVKOV, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Please accept on behalf of the Board of Royal Dutch/Shell sincere congratulations on the occasion of the Commemoration of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

Few countries have possessed continuously through their history the individual and collective sense of purpose, and the resilience necessary for the maintenance, during such a long period, of national integrity and progressive social development.

It is our privilege to have been involved in a small way with your country for some years and it is clear from our own experience that Bulgarian success and example to the world in social development, culture, technology, commerce, industry, sport and many other fields is due essentially to the rich, varied and attractive character of the Bulgarian people which it is your privilege to lead and inspire.

With every good wish for the future, which I have no doubt will be successful.



September 1981

André Bénard – Managing
Director of the Royal Dutch
Shell group of Companies.

*Exhibition of Bulgarian electronics
and electrical engineering, organized
by the firm "Rastem" in
Hilversum dedicated to the 1300th
anniversary of Bulgaria – 1981*

TO

HIS EXCELLENCE MR. CHRISTO CHRISTOV, MINISTER OF
FOREIGN TRADE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Excellency:

Please allow me to send you my most sincere congratulations at the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian State. This is indeed a cause for celebration and proud commemorations. May your country continue on the road of increasing prosperity and peaceful development, and may the relations between our two countries grow in scope and intensity for many years to come.

I take the occasion to inform you of the fact that as result of recent parliamentary elections there has been a change of government in the Netherlands and I am relinquishing my position as State Secretary for Foreign Trade. Our relationship during my tenure of office has been most gratifying and commercial exchanges between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Kingdom of the Netherlands have shown remarkable progress. I wish to thank you once more for your cooperation and for your kind hospitality during my visit to your country in April, 1980.

*With kindest personal regards,
Yours sincerely,*

**K.H. Beijen, Deputy Minister
of Economic Affairs.**

TO

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BULGARIA. HIS EXCELLENCE MR. CHRISTO CHRISTOV.

Your Excellency,

We have pleasure in extending our sincere congratulations to you and to the people of your country at the occasion of the thirteenhundredth anniversary of Bulgaria and we express herewith our wishes that your country may continue to prosper many years from now.

Respectfully, we sign

Koninklijke Bunge B.V.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCE, MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE MR. HRISTO
HRISTOV, SOFIA, BULGARIA.

Excellency,

September 15th, 1981

We herewith take the opportunity to congratulate you with the 1300 years of the Foundation of the Bulgarian State.

We have always followed the developments and achievements in your country and are herewith expressing our best wishes for a further prospering of the nation and wish its people good luck for the future.

We are very pleased in doing business with your country for over 20 years in a pleasant way and hope to prolongate this for many years.

Yours faithfully,

**Kaufmann's Handel-
Maatschappij N.V.**

INTRODUCTORY ARTICLE TO THE BULLETIN "1300 YEARS BULGARIA"



13 CENTURIES BULGARIA

In the year 1981 the Bulgarian people have a jubilee to celebrate, 1300 years ago the Bulgarian state was founded.

In 681 the Bulgarian Khan Asparuh forced, after a longlasting war, the Byzantine emperor Constantine IV Pogonat to a peace-treaty. With this treaty the foundation of the state Bulgaria on the Balkan peninsula was recognized.

From then till now-a-days in Europe exists the state Bulgaria.

During its 13-centurieslong history the Bulgarians have known periods of prosperity and glory (in the 8th and 9th century), they also painfully have suffered a long time from foreign domination. From the 10th to the 12th century Bulgaria was enslaved by the Byzantine empire, from the 14th to the 19th century the people groaned under the hard Ottoman yoke.

In spite of this centuries-long domination the Bulgarians succeeded to preserve their nationality, their language and their Christian faith.

The Bulgarian people survived all those historical visitations and difficulties and it is now an active member of the family of European peoples fighting for the enforcement of the final acts of Helsinki for the realization of European security and cooperation. Since a long time there exist excellent relations between Bulgaria and The Netherlands. During the last couple of years again an again new possibilities are created for the extension of the trade relations, as well as for the intensification of the economic and cultural relations between the two countries.

To make the Dutch people acquainted with the 13-centuries-long history of Bulgaria, there has been founded, in connection with the coming celebration of this jubilee, a committee, of which I have the honour to be the Chairman.

The Committee has set itself the task to contribute, with the support of the Bulgarian Embassy, towards the organization of various activities which will take place in the Netherlands on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary-jubilee.

For instance, at Leiden University a symposium will be organized on Bulgarian culture, for Bulgarian and Dutch scientists. In Rotterdam Days of Bulgarian economy and technics will be organized. In the Residence The Hague an exhibition will be organized of Bulgarian paintings. In May the National Opera of Sofia will give guest-performances in the Netherlands. The Committee is planning also other interesting activities.

With the purpose to make the Dutch people acquainted with the history of Bulgaria, the Committee decided to issue this bulletin, in which, to our opinion, everyone can find something interesting about this friendly country, Bulgaria.

M. Schakel, Chairman of the Dutch Committee for the celebration of the 1300th anniversary of the state Bulgaria.

Dear Mr. Christov,

Amsterdam, 7-10-1981

We want to congratulate you with the fact that Bulgaria exists 1300 years.

During the four years we are doing business with Bulgaria, we learned that Bulgaria is a country with many possibilities.

Therefore we trust that we can carry up our business in the future and enlarge the number of business relations.

At the moment we are doing mainly business with Raznoiznos, who always showed to be a good businesspartner.

With a good cooperation we are certain that we can do good business in the future for both benefit.

Separate we hand you by way of the Ambassador of Bulgaria in Holland, a painting as a gift for the 1300 existence of Bulgaria, made by the famous dutch painter Mr. Panbakker, who made a copy of the "Spinner" by Nicolas Maes, an old dutch painter.

Again our congratulations.

Yours very truly,

LA FONTAINE
import & export
F.P. La Fontaine
Dir.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE, MR.
CHRISTO CHRISTOV, SOPHIA – BULGARIA.

Your Ecellency,

Rotterdam, October 7th 1981.

I would like to take this opportunity in extending to you our heartiest congratulations on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

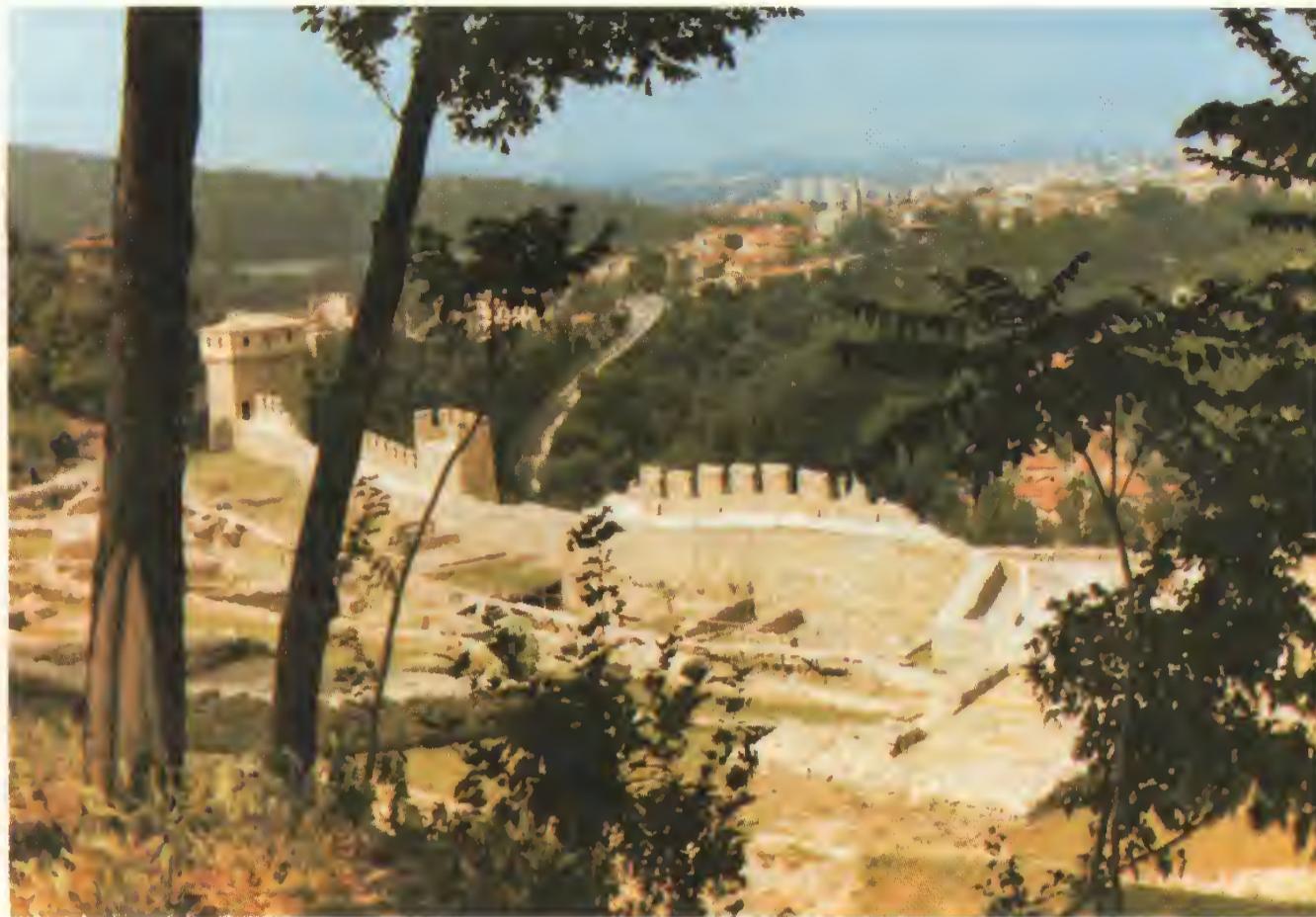
On behalf of all of us at Nedlloyd Bulk I convey our best wishes for a continued good future for the people of Bulgaria.

Sincerely yours,

A.L. de Jong,
Managing Director.



Opening of the exhibition of Bulgarian books, organized by publishing house "Martinus Nijhoff" and Hemus – Sofia dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria



Veliko Tarnovo. A view of the stronghold on Tsarevets Hill.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. CHRISTO CHRISTOV, MINISTER OF
FOREIGN TRADE SOFIA.

Dear Mr. Christo Christov,

On the occasion of the 1300 years anniversary of Bulgaria, I like very much to present you my heartly congratulations with this event.

On behalf of all my staffmembers and workers of my company and special who were and are still in relation with your country I wish happiness and peace for the Bulgarian people.

Since 1962 I and my company, we have a very good relationship with Bulgarian Ministers, Committee and organisations.

I hope that our relationship and good understanding will continue for many years.

With kind regards,

P. Veskamp

TO
THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE P.R. OF BULGARIA.
MR. CHRISTO CHRISTOV.

Excellency,

Rotterdam, June 30th, 1981

We like to express our heartiest congratulations to the Bulgarian people on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian State.

This anniversary means that Bulgaria is one of the oldest European States developing through the centuries into the modern state as it is today.

It must be a strong and courageous people that is able to keep together through so many ages to build up their country into the modern and prosperous state that Bulgaria is today.

We sincerely wish this great people and their leaders a happy and peaceful future and express the hope that the good relationship between both our countries may continue for many years to come.

Yours faithfully,

**Th. A. Jansen,
Rijn Schelde Verolme**

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY CHRISTO CHRISTOV, MINISTER OF FOREIGN
TRADE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, SOFIA,
BULGARIA.

Your Excellency,

10 February, 1981

We herewith permit ourselves, on occasion of the 1300 years anniversary of Bulgaria, to offer you our sincere congratulations. You will realise that we, being firm partners in business with Bulgarian export, during last 20 years, feel ourselves more involved with your lovely country than others might do.

Therefore we really do hope, that Bulgaria will continue his progressive development to the benefit of all its inhabitants. We like to stress in this respect that also we will do our best in future to extend our business relations with the various Bulgarian export-companies. This might give us the feeling that we from our part are also contributing, how little it might be, to the welfare of Bulgaria.

Congratulating you once more, we remain,

sincerely yours,

**De Leeuw's Handels-
onderneming N.V.**

De Leeuw, President

TO
THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BULGARIA, MR. CH. CHRISTOV, SOFIA. PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BULGARIA.

Your Excellency,

Zoetermeer, September 22, 1981.

Also on behalf of our mother company, Continental Foods Company of Puurs, Belgium, I should like to congratulate the People's Republic of Bulgaria on its 1300th Anniversary.

We have had the pleasure to work with your beautiful country via Bulgarkonserv during the last 20 years and in that period we have built up a very pleasant relationship.

Starting with a very moderate turnover, we have achieved together a steady and increasing business in various Bulgarian specialties like jams, marmalades, peeled tomatoes, paprica and so on.

Our business relation has been as it should be: we went together through good times and bad times. And, as a Dutch expression says (no doubt the same expression exists in Bulgaria): "In difficult times, you get to know your real friends".

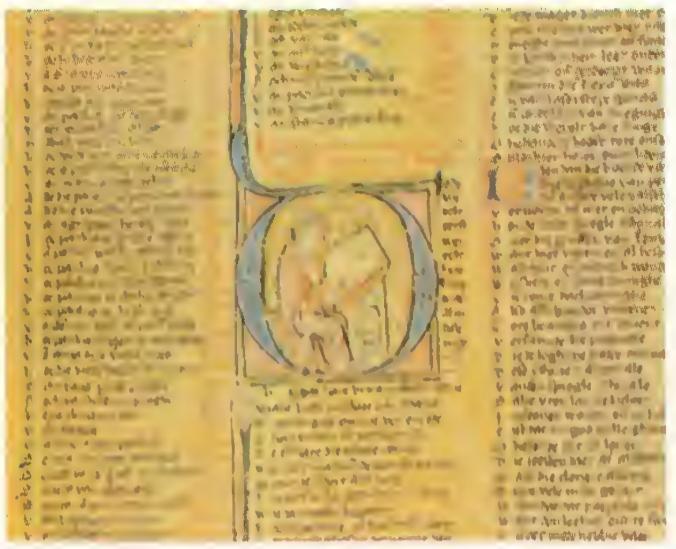
This is why we are sure that we shall work together with Bulgaria for a long period to come, during which we are going to strengthen our good relationship.

Once again our very best wishes to your country and to our numerous Bulgarian friends.

With kindest regards,

BOAS B.V.,

**Th. Th. van Ham,
Managing Director.**



*Jakob van Maerlant "Spiegel Historiael" 13th cent.
The first history book in Dutch contains also data on the history of the Medieval Bulgarian state.*

BULGARIA – THE NETHERLANDS THE TRADE IN PROGRESS

September 1981

In the Eastern part of Europa lies Bulgaria, bounded by the Black Sea, in the Western part lies Holland, bounded by the North Sea. The territory of Bulgaria is three times as big as that of The Netherlands, Bulgaria's population is 8,9 million, Hollands population is 14 millions. Two little European countries that have many things in common. Originally, they have been agricultural countries, but after World War II they developed their industries.

The export is extremely important for the economic development of the two countries; they both make great efforts for its extension. I think that the good mutual trade relations between Bulgaria and The Netherlands are due to the above-mentioned facts, as well as to the good relations between the two countries.

In connection with this year's celebration of the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian state, there may be mentioned that the first mutual trade relations between the two countries date back to 1878, to the opening of trade consulates in Russe and Varna.

They were restored again in 1945 and were very brisk till 1970. In the period 1970-1975, a certain depression was noticed, but new possibilities for further development of the trade between the two countries were created with the signing of a long-term agreement for economic, industrial and technical co-operation between Bulgaria and The Netherlands. During the last couple of years the economic relations between Bulgaria en The Netherlands were extended again and continue to develop. The conclusion of trade agreements was facilitated by a few factors, namely the visit to Sofia of Mr. Van der Klaauw, minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands, and the visit of Christo Christov, minister of Foreign Trade of Bulgaria, to The Netherlands in 1979. The state-secretary of foreign trade of The Netherlands, Mr. K.H. Beijen, returned the visit to Sofia in 1980. During this visit he officially opened in Sofia the Netherlands Days of Technics, organized by the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion, with the motto: "Meet the Dutch in Sofia". Dutch businessmen audio-visually presented their products, organized symposia and round-table meetings. Represented were the agricultural and food-processing industries, medical equipment, the chemical industry, electronics, shipbuilding a.o. Also important was the visit to The Netherlands of the first vice-president of the Council of Ministers, Todor Bozhinov, who had fruitful talks with prime-minister Dries van Agt, with other members of the Dutch government, and with businessmen.

During the Bulgarian days of technics in Rotterdam last year, held under the patronage of the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and organized by the Netherlands Council for Trade promotion and the Chambers of Commerce of Rotterdam and Looier Maas, the Bulgarian trade-organizations informed the Dutch

businessmen about the economic and technical potential, about the light and heavy industry, the shipbuilding, chemical and pharmaceutical products, medical equipment, wines and alcoholic drinks.

Agreements were signed for co-operation between Dutch firms and Bulgarian foreign-trade organizations in the field of agriculture, manufacturing industry, energetics, shipbuilding, chemical and food-oil industries. These agreements led also to putting into effect projects in third countries.

During the last years a considerable increase was seen of the Bulgarian export to The Netherlands, because of the improvement of the quality of the products and the observation of the requirements.

The exchange of merchandise of 59,9 million guilders in 1970 increased to 124,7 million guilders in 1980.

In connection with Decree 535 of the State Council of the PR of Bulgaria on mixed corporations between Bulgarian juridical persons and foreign juridical and physical persons, the Dutch businessmen show a great interest, since the share of the foreign partner with capital increases even more than 50%.

During the Bulgarian Days of technics in Rotterdam an agreement was signed by the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion, on co-operation and trade exchange.

Big chances for increase of the Bulgarian trade were opened also in the five-year-plan for 1981-1985. In this respect, an important role will be played by the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as by its representatives in the Bulgarian Trade Representation in The Hague.

In the future we expect visits in The Netherlands of also other responsible state figures.

I hope that this review will show you how two little countries with different social systems successfully can co-operate in peace and understanding.

C. v. Lent – Chairman of the Bulgarian Committee at the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion.

Article in "Das Messemagazin – International" published in Düsseldorf by the Interest Society for Trade promotion East-West.



Old book "Trip to Constantinopel" - Gift from Mr. Slot from the "State Archiv".



The Dutch dancing group "Baluta" from The Hague at the festival of Bulgarian folk dances, organized by the Netherlands folk-dance organization NEVO dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria – in hall "Krasnopol-ski," Amsterdam, February, 1981

TO
MR. LATCHESAR AVRAMOV, AMBASSADOR OF BULGARIA,
'S-GRAVENHAGE.

Dear Mr. Avramov,

On September 9, 1981, your country will celebrate a unique occasion. On that day it will be 1300 years ago that the Bulgarian state was founded. A memorable anniversary!

I wish to extend to you my warmest congratulations, also on behalf of the citizens of Rotterdam, with this day. You know that Rotterdam cherishes warm feelings of friendship for Bulgaria and especially for our personal friends in Bourgas.

May the friendship between our countries and between the port cities of Bourgas and Rotterdam flourish and, if possible, be even strengthened in the future. May we work together for friendship, for peace and prosperity, for many, many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

André van der Louw.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE P.R. OF
BULGARIA, – DEN HAAG.

Your Excellency,

Eindhoven, August 21th, 1981.

With regard to the 1300 years' anniversary of Bulgaria I may herewith congratulate you on this occasion.

At the same time I wish to express my confidence that our existing friendly relations will develop to the mutual benefit of us all in future.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. W. Dekker.

Vice-President of "Philips"

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA – DEN HAAG.

Excellency,

Herewith I offer you my sincere congratulations and my best wishes on the 1300th anniversary of the foundation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

I hope that the ties of friendship between our two countries may even grow stronger in the years to come.

Yours faithfully,

**Jhr. Mr. F.O.J. Sickinghe,
President of "Stork".**

TO

THE AMBASSADOR OF BULGARIA, THE HAGUE.

Mr. Ambassador,

On the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian state, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Bulgarian people.

Thanks to your initiative, I could take a share in the organizing of activities in my country by preparing a historical exposition and writing some pieces. The research into the Dutch sources on Bulgarian history was to me a most pleasant adventure, rewarded by the discovery of a rich historical material on the relations between our two countries throughout many centuries.

In this research I found that for many years the Dutch knew of Bulgaria as a geographical expression, but did not know anything about the Bulgarian people, which they discovered only at the beginning of the last century. This is why I would like to offer as a present the oldest book printed in the Netherlands which mentions the Bulgarian people. This book printed in 1818 even expresses a considerable sympathy towards the Bulgarians. I think that this book might be a worthy acquisition to a Bulgarian scientific library.

I hope for many years of fruitful cooperation between Bulgarian and Dutch historians in discovering more facts on a long history of 1300 years. The work done on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary has been a good start.



The Hague, 29 IX 1981

**drs. B.J. Slot
deputy keeper
General State Archives.**

*Old-style architecture in the town
of Gabrovo*



Mummers

TO
THE AMBASSADOR OF THE P.R. OF BULGARIA.

Your Excellency,

28th September, 1981

We would like to congratulate you with the 1300th anniversary of the State of Bulgaria.

We are very pleased to see our trade with your country increasing and it gives us great pleasure to maintain our business connections with your people.

May we wish you and your country peace and prosperity.

Yours cordially,

Heineken Brouwerijen B.V.

E.A.P.M. Hoogeweegen

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY, THE AMBASSADOR OF THE P.R. OF
BULGARIA – DEN HAAG.

Excellency,

Respectfully we request Your Excellency to accept our congratulations on the celebration of the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian State and our good wishes for happiness and prosperity for Your Excellency's people in this time and for a long future.

with kind respect,

**Your Excellency's people's
sincere friends.**

mr. and mrs. Rasker.

TO
THE AMBASSADOR OF BULGARIA, 's-GRAVENHAGE.

Dear Mr. Avramov,

Rotterdam, 1 October, 1981

It gives me great pleasure that I can inform you that the Rotterdam city government has decided to donate a work of a Rotterdam artist to the Sofia museum to be dedicated to 1300 years anniversary of the State of Bulgaria.

The city fathers also decided to give a replica of the famous statue of the Rotterdam-born philosopher Erasmus. The original statue was made in 1622 by Hendrick de Keyzer. The bronze replica was made by a wellknown Rotterdam sculptor, Huib Noorlander.

I hope that both works will find a place in the Sofia museum.

Yours sincerely,

Ivo P.L. Blom,
Burgomaster's Secretary.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY LATCHESAR AVRAMOV, AMBASSADOR OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA - THE HAGUE.

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Amsterdam, October 19, 1981

On behalf of the Philipp Brothers organization I herewith would like to congratulate you and all our friends in Bulgaria upon the 1300th Anniversary of the State of Bulgaria.

The rich history of Bulgaria, one of the oldest states in Europa, and its tremendous achievements in becoming the modern industrial-agrarian state it is today, must fill the Bulgarian people with the pride and motivation that will ensure Bulgaria's continued cultural, economic and social success in the world.

The year 1981 also marks the first anniversary of the General Agreement on economic, commercial and trade cooperation between the Bulgarian Foreign and Economic Trade Organizations and Philipp Brothers. Although this Agreement is but one year old, it holds great promise for further growth of our cooperation based as it is on a long standing relationship of mutual trust and respect.

Yours sincerely,

Philipp Brothers (Holland) b.v.
W. Straus

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE P.R. OF
BULGARIA - 's-GRAVENHAGE.

Excellency,

September 22nd, 1981

I am pleased to inform you that on the occasion of the celebration of the 1300 years' anniversary of Bulgaria, we like to present to your country a gift in the form of a multi-language laboratory system.

This system is designed for 15 language-students and can be extended.

Yours faithfully,

**N.V. Philips' Gloeilampen-
fabrieken**
G. Zweers

TO
THE AMBASSADOR OF BULGARIA – 's-GRAVENHAGE.

Mr. Ambassador,

Lisse, 30th September 1981

Thanks to your initiative, several members of our school-community were able to visit Bulgaria and to participate in the endeavours of the Bulgarian people in uniting the youth of the world for the sake of culture and peace.

On the event of the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian state, we would like to express to you, being the representative of the Bulgarian people in Holland, our congratulations. In Bulgaria, some of us have been able to see the achievements of the modern state as well as the continuity of a very old popular culture. We deeply appreciate the way in which the very old state of Bulgaria has the interest of the youth all over the world to its heart.



*Yours faithfully,
"Fioretti" college*

*Drs. J.P.M. Jansen,
rector*

*Mrs. J.C.H. Slot-van Veen,
conrectrix*

*Mr. J.P.A.M. Prins,
coördinator.*

A view of the Dryanovo Monastery

CLIO'S KINGDOM

Article published in the bulletin "1300 years Bulgaria" by Professor William R. Veder from the Catholic University Nijmegen.

Rarely has a people been so ravaged. Not only could the Bulgarians in their 1300 years of existence despose of their own destiny not more than for 600 years but they had to endure during the 700 years of Byzantine and Ottoman domination the systematic destruction of their own history – I have only one word for this destruction – historicide.

More than thousand years ago in 971, the Bulgarian fabulous rich capital Preslav was ruined and razed to the ground by emperor Johannes Tsimiskes. Books became trophies, works of art – filling material for foundations, artists and scholars perished or emigrated. Two centuries long this continued, until country and people recovered and came to a renewed prosperity, but already two centuries later in 1396 sultan Bajazet made an abrupt end to it. He ruined the new capital Tarnovo and the history repeated itself, but more intervene than before, because the survivors were forced to adapt themselves to an alien philosophy of life. Moreover Bajazet's successors

gave the Greek clergy a free hand and until the early 19th century it wiped out with a growing self-confidence all still not faded vestiges of the past Bulgarian glory. Books were burned, inscriptions – hewn out, captions on frescos removed. The Bulgarian language, a language, which once was a rival of the Greek, was banished to the kitchen-garden and the sheeppen.

Where is no memory left, Clio has to come and lend a helping hand.

Only the muse of history can show the way to the forgotten sources of memory. The first Bulgarian, who answered her kiss was a monk, Paisi from Hilendar, who wrote in 1762 a very dissident for those days, a real inflammatory book – "The Slavo-Bulgarian history". Spread all over Bulgaria, in a hand-written form or printed abroad it gave Clio's inspiration over to contemporaries and descendants. Her kingdom was definitely consolidated when the first governments of the new, in 1878 revived Bulgaria appointed well known historians to ministers of education: first Marin Drinov, later Konstantin Jircek. Since that time the historic science enjoys an enormous public interest, which makes books such as Kojo Koeëvs "The destiny of the Oldbulgarian manuscripts" to bestsellers. It is this interest, which causes historical and archeological research of a high quality, resulting in extraordinary well got-up original publications. This interest in the broken ties with the own history manifests itself also in the willingness to conserve and to make accessible all kinds of cultural monuments, from fragments of manuscripts and icons to ruins of palaces and churches, where meanwhile Clio's objectivity becomes well aware, because Byzantine and Ottoman monuments, which in the first fit of national revival had to suffer, now are also surrounded with care.

But in the kingdom of Clio flourish not only the historical sciences. The regained realization of historical value gave also new impulses to the language and literature. "Clio is also a muse" reminds us a bundle of essays by Vera Moetaftsjieva, accenting on the last word. The biography, the historical novel and short story belong to the accelerants of the literary life, they bring old notions and words to new actuality. Finally other areas of social life get also under the auspices of the muse: Emil Alexandrov's recent fundamental work "International cultural law" proves that in Clio's kingdom people are firmly resolved to avoid a repetition of the historicide and to secure a good future both for the present and for the past.

TO
THE AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

Your Excellency,

We would like to express our sincere congratulations on occasions of the 1300 jubilee of the founding of the Bulgarian state.

We wish the people of Bulgaria further success in the construction of the economic and cultural life.

As a token of our respect for your country please accept our present – the oil-painting "Sail ships".

Most respectfully

B. Dimitrov,
Director
RASTEM B.V.
The Netherlands

TO
HIS EXCELLENCE, AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BULGARIA.

Your Excellency,

Brussels, 2 February 1981

This year Bulgaria celebrates the 1300th anniversary of its foundation.

Wholeheartedly we are with your people, and we stand in admiration of this people, who succeeded thanks to its courage, strength and resistance to preserve its culture and its existence, despite the great number of painful vicissitudes, due to long foreign occupations.

We know that on occasion of this memorable event many festivities will be organized not only in Bulgaria, but in many countries in Europe. This will undoubtedly be a new stage towards a better understanding, towards extending and increasing the friendly relations between the countries in the world.



Marcel Ketelaers, André
Ketelaers MK ETS
M. Ketelaers
SPRL Import Export Representation

The Etur ethnographic park near the town of Gabrovo

TO
HIS EXCELLENCE THE AMBASSADOR OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BULGARIA IN THE NETHERLANDS

Mr. Ambassador,

Allow me, on behalf of the Department of Slavonic studies of Leiden University, to congratulate you with the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian state.

With good reason, the Bulgarian people is proud of its rich history. For us, Slav scholars, Bulgaria is above all the country that gave the script to the Slavs. But we also realize that in your country events have happened which exercised influence on human thought and culture.

Mr. Ambassador, I avail myself of this opportunity to express my gratitude for the support you gave us for the popularization of the Bulgarian studies in our country. I hope that our scientific co-operation will continue henceforth.

Leiden, 2.10.1981

Sincerely yours,

Dr. H. Pijnenburg,

*Faculty of Philology,
University of Leiden.*

TO
HIS EXCELLENCE, THE AMBASSADOR OF BULGARIA,
THE HAGUE.

Excellency,

28 september 1981

During a visit to Bulgaria we have noted the preparations for the festivities on 20th October, 1981, the day on which your country exists 1300 years.

We wish to present our heartiest congratulations on the occasion of this anniversary and at the same time express our wish that the co-operation between both our nations will be extended and even ameliorated.

We should highly appreciate to be given an opportunity to offer a present, which is customary for us on such an anniversary. We should like to consult with you in what form this could be materialized.

Yours faithfully,

**Hollandse Constructie
Groep bv**

**L.W. Provoost,
Managing Director.**

TO
THE EMBASSY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA –
THE HAGUE.

Your Excellency,

Polaroid herewith have the honour of expressing our congratulations to the Minister of Trade, Mr. Christo Christov, on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, on October 20, 1981.

We sincerely wish the People's Republic of Bulgaria prosperity and progress for the future.

Yours respectfully,

**POLAROID (EUROPA) B.V.
International Division**

**H. Doeuff,
Area Sales Manager.**



*City of Veliko Tarnovo, the capital
of the second Bulgarian kingdom
(12th - 14th century)*

TO
HIS EXCELLENCE, AMBASSADOR OF THE P.R. OF BULGARIA,
's-GRAVENHAGE.

Your Excellency,

Amsterdam, 22 September 1981.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my congratulations on behalf of BOO DESIGN '79 on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian State.

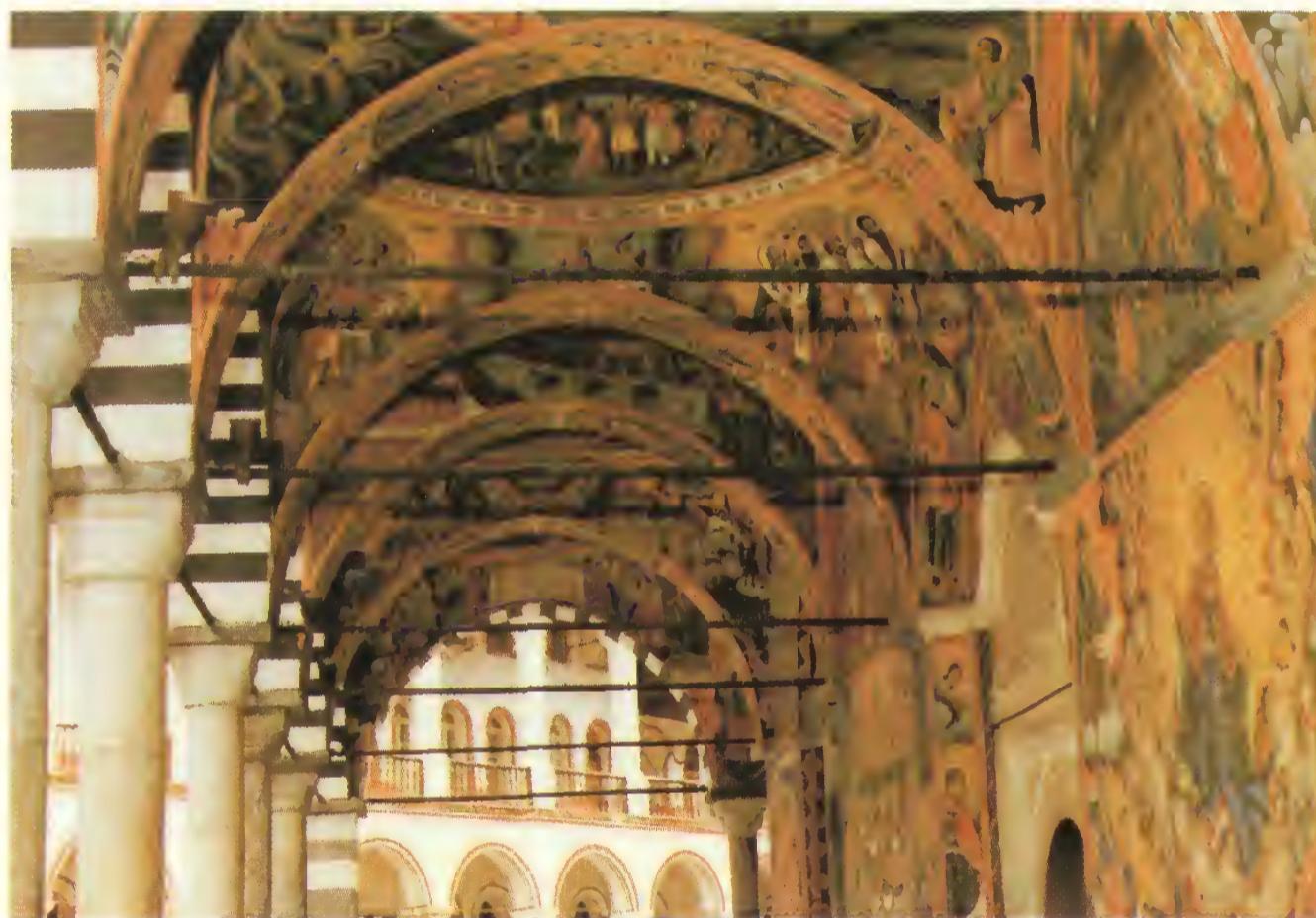
Our company has been doing business with your country for only a few years yet, but during this short period there has been a growing friendship and respect, which is mainly due to the outstanding Public Relations of Bulgaria.

I hope our relations with each other are just as prosperous and fruitfull as in the past and I wish your country further successes in the future.

Yours cordially,

BOO DESIGN '79

(P. Thoma)



Murals in the Rila Monastery

TO
HIS EXCELLENCE, AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF BULGARIA, 's-GRAVENHAGE.

Dear Sir,

September 29, 1981

We are glad being in the situation to offer our congratulations for the 1300th anniversary of your country.

Though we as Richo do not exist that period of time we really hope that our relationship with your esteemed country, especially with Hranexport – Sofia, will develop into a long-lasting one.

With the help of your trade mission we strongly believe that we can achieve a friendly relationship and this to our mutual benefit.

In order to express our thoughts, we herewith send you a present of our company as our contribution to make this anniversary unforgettable to you and your people.

Yours faithfully,

RICHO ROTTERDAM B.V.

A. van der Werf

M. Baris

TO

MR. L. AVRAMOV, BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE
NETHERLANDS, BULGARIAN EMBASSY THE HAGUE.

Excellency,

Haarlem, October 8, 1981

The Management of Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V. would like to take this opportunity to convey best wishes on the occasion of the People's Republic of Bulgaria's 1300 years celebrations. In this time-span your country has undergone fundamental changes that have brought progress and prosperity to the Bulgarian people.

Merck Sharp & Dohme, a major pharmaceutical company with headquarters in Rahway, New Jersey, U.S.A., has gradually developed its trade relations with the People's Republic of Bulgaria from modest results to a sizable business in human pharmaceutical and animal health products. In fact, in January of this year, Merck's subsidiary in Switzerland marked the anniversary of its tenth year of association with your foreign trade organization Interpred.

T.A. Coppens

TO

THE EMBASSY OF BULGARIA, 's-GRAVENHAGE.

Dear Sirs,

20th October 1981

Through the fields where to-day the roses bloom the best and bravest horsemen from the Orient came riding during the 7th century and populated the entire land between the Black Sea and the Adriatic.

Soon they interbred with the Slavonian People who lived there and thus a mighty empire was born which included 200 years later under King Simeon not only the present Bulgaria but also Macedonia, Servia, Bosnia, Albania and Montenegro.

So great became their power that they even conquered Byzantium twice.

Independent and proud they lived and ruled until the Turkish hordes overran Europe and in 1341 also Sofia and Vidin fell.

Separated but allied by the doctrine of Methodius and Kyrillos they then lived for nearly 500 years under the Turkish yoke.

To-day the Socialist Republic of Bulgaria lives and works for the present and future generations.

Agriculture, technical science and industry due to close collaboration between the people and their leaders have reached a high level.

The contents of this letter may surprise you because of course every student or schoolboy in Sofia probably knows the history of his own country much better.

However our modest knowledge of your history will prove to you that the present and the past of your country is known, admired and respected by us who are your commercial partners from the far low country.

We therefore want to extend to you on the occasion of your 1300 years commemoration our very best wishes for prosperity, progress and development and above all for peace, so much desired by all of us.

Yours faithfully,

B.V. TRANSMARINDE



BULGARIA AND THE NETHERLANDS THE HISTORY OF A DISTANT FRIENDSHIP

The article is published in the
bulletin "1300 years Bulgaria"

National Assembly Square in Sofia

Till, not very long ago, the big stream of tourists got going, the interest for Bulgaria was limited in The Netherlands. Both countries were situated too far from each other in those times, when travelling was difficult and dangerous.

Maybe even Dutch crusaders have passed Bulgaria, maybe they even have fought with the Bulgarians; we don't know anything for sure. Properly speaking, the Dutch people only discovered Bulgaria in the 17th century when Holland just obtained its independence, but Bulgaria was already a few centuries under Turkish occupation. Most of the Dutch ambassadors in Turkey had to pass Bulgaria on their way to their posts, and lugging the lumbering coaches on the bad roads and high passes through the Balkan mountains, was considered the most difficult part of the journey, especially because in that area often highway-robbers lay in wait.

We don't know very much about these journeys, the ambassadors only very briefly mention them. Once arrived in Constantinople the ambassadors sometimes mention events in Bulgaria in their reports home, but this information is also rare.

During the 18th century, the ambassadors start to behave more like interested tourists, the travel-reports become a little more detailed and in one of the collections of paintings of one of the mentioned ambassadors (Calkoen) are even two paintings of Bulgarian national costumes, which paintings can be found now in the National Museum in Amsterdam. One of his successors, Van Dedem, had to travel through Bulgaria in the period of the French revolution.

His secretary wrote the first Dutch travelreport about Bulgaria. That report doesn't have a very pleasant tone, the VIP's are angry: about the bad roads and the poverty of the region they have to pass; the ambassador's wife does not consider the huts of the Bulgarians good enough for her and prefers to sleep in the coach. Besides that, the group accompanying the ambassador is afraid: the former gang of highway-robbers have become guerillas which even get support from the revolutionary French government to start rebellion against the Turkish occupators. During that period, the reports of the ambassadors contained much more news about Bulgaria than before.

At the end of the 18th century the Turkish gave permission to the Dutch to sail the Black Sea and that led to a progressive development of the trade relations, but only in 1868 they proved to be important enough to establish a Dutch consulate in the aerea that was to be, not long after that, the independent state Bulgaria, in Varna. In 1874 the next consulate was established in Russe. The consuls saw in the regions around their posts the rapid rise of the Bulgarian nationalism and of the revolt against the Turkish domination. The Dutch government was not extremely interested in the Bulgarian struggle for independence, although its consuls in that aerea sent comprehensive reports to The Hague. The Bulgarian independence did as yet not lead to formal relations between the two countries, the two former consulates in Russe and Varna remained the only ones, and they already had rather strained relations with the Bulgarian authorities. In 1910 the two countries decided to have a closer relationship. As a result of this, a Dutch general-consulate was established in Sofia and a whole series of consuls in Bulgaria, while Bulgaria opened a general-consulate in Rotterdam.

Only in 1915 a decision was made for diplomatic relations, in that same year the Netherlands appointed a chargé d'affaires in Sofia, and in 1916 Bulgaria appointed a minister in The Hague. In spite of the slowness of the development of the relations, the impression arose that in The Netherlands existed a certain sympathy for the young state. Virtues like solidity, economy and aversion of ostentation were highly appreciated by Dutch observers. But sympathy was not enough, there had to be economic relations to justify the expenses of the legations, and long time there were not any.

Especially in the General Public Record Office documents are found which tell a story about the relations between the Netherlands and Bulgaria through the ages.

Together with paintings, engravings and old maps, they will constitute the materials for a photo-exhibition which will be organized in Rotterdam.

B.J. Slot

*On behalf of the Dutch linguists
on Bulgarian language at the
universities of Leiden, Nijme-
gen and Utrecht.*

The linguists on Bulgarian language in The Netherlands congratulate heartily their Bulgarian colleagues and friends, the whole Bulgarian people, and wish them not to forget the time when Bulgarian scholars have created the literature and the culture of the Slavic world and to spend, in an uninterrupted creative progress and in a friendly communication with the whole Europe, their 14 century.

May the 1300 years old Bulgarian language and culture live!

1 October 1981

Prof. Dr. W. Veder

*lecturer in Bulgarian language
and literature at the Catholic
University in Nijmegen.*



Opening of the Exhibition "The Netherlands-Bulgaria-Traces of relations through the centuries" at the Town-hall Rotterdam.

March 1981

TO
PROFESSOR DIMITROV, EDITOR IN CHIEF "ZEMEDELSKO
ZNAME", SOFIA.

Dear colleague,

Amsterdam, July 22nd, 1981

This is to congratulate you and everybody working with the paper, as well as its readers, with the 1300 years of existence of the State of Bulgaria. I have learned that the Bulgarian people is very proud of this anniversary. I do hope that the commemoration, which I hope to attend in September, will be a reflection of what the Bulgarian people is feeling and that the people of Bulgaria, hard working and seriously looking forward to peace, will be happy in the future and that their welfare and their happiness may grow for the years to come.

Sincerely yours,

**drs. J.M.M. van der Pluijm,
Editor in Chief "de Volkskrant".**

TO
MR. BOJAN TRAIKOV, BULGARIAN RADIO.

Dear Mr. Traikov,

May 12, 1981

The good relationship between your and our broadcasting organization gives me reason to offer you my congratulations on the 1300th anniversary of Bulgaria.

The history of your country and your people and especially Bulgaria's present circumstances are not so well-known in the Netherlands yet. We do hope that with our programmes within the framework of the celebration of this anniversary we will give a contribution to a better knowledge and by that to a better understanding.

Trusting that our good contacts will continue, I am

Yours faithfully,

**ALGEMENE OMROEP-
VERENIGING AVRO**

**Nico J. van Vliet,
deputy-managing director
Radio Department.**



TO
MRS. A. TRITCHKOVA, COMMITTEE OF ART AND CULTURE
INSTITUTE OF AMATEUR ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES.
SOFIA - BULGARIA.

The Rozhen Monastery

Dear Mrs. Tritchkova,

We would like to give you our heartiest congratulations on the occasion of 1300 years Bulgaria.

It has been a great pleasure for us here in Holland to be able to join in your festivities on the occasion of the many cultural events that have been organised here.

Of course for us the Festival of Bulgarian Dances that we organised in cooperation with the Bulgarian Embassy in The Hague, was the highlight of those celebrations.

We are all aware of the good relations that have developed between our countries. Since so many of our members are frequent visitors of your beautiful country, we are also able to rejoice us with many friends that we have in Bulgaria.

It would be our privilege if we could continue our good relations and establish new friendships, if we could have a Bulgarian team visiting us on the occasion of the Leiden Festival next year. We will write to you in a separate letter on this matter.

We would like to thank you very much for the beautiful costumes from Shop you presented us with on the occasion of the Festival of Bulgarian Dances. I am delighted to inform you that those costumes are frequently used by several of our ensembles throughout Holland. Even this small way we hope to contribute to a good understanding between the Dutch and the Bulgarian people.

Please accept our very best wishes and warmest congratulations.

Yours sincerely,

NEVO

BULGARIAN ART – AN ENCOUNTER.



The front cover of Lyudmila Zhivkova's book "Tsar Ivan Alexander's Tetraevangelia"

Bulgaria seems to be more far away than it really is: when I say this I do not refer to the distance in kilometres, nor to the connections – which are excellent by the way – but rather to a feeling of distance.

Until recently the Balkans, except Greece and Yougoslavia, had been a territory unknown by many people. Contacts of trade, but also tourism have gradually changed this situation. The purpose of my visit however, was not a trip to the shores of the Black Sea, but a curiosity about the latest artistic developments in Bulgaria. Under the Turkish yoke that lasted in Bulgaria until 1879 artistic developments were hardly able to flourish. The Arts were cultivated and taught in the convents, where painters and writers continued with the image of christian civilisation in opposition to the oppressors. After the war of independence Bulgaria was open for influences from abroad. Artists could go and study at the academies of fine art in Vienna and Munich; others followed the developments in Paris with eagerness. The paintings by Nikola Petrov, Todorov and Michailov, mostly from the period around 1900 reflect both the influences of western European art and an urge for national identity. This same urge is to be found in the fine arts of Bulgaria of this particular moment. In some cities artistic groups are trying to find possibilities to develop next to the currents from western countries a recognizable art of their own. Important centres are now not only Sofia, but also Plovdiv, Varna and Rousse. Some artists until recently sought inspiration in folklore, but the discredit of the so called naives who had started a commercial production in neighbour countries, offered but little resource in the end. The stimuli for experimental and non-figurative art were only few in Bulgaria.

Only just now some artists have broken the traditional pattern of still life and landscape painting in one way or another. One of them is Emil Stoichev, with his portraits in which fiction dominates the naturalistic approach: hard-edge realism is characteristic for Yordan Marinov – his paintings show an effect of irreality. The works of Andrei Daniel also have an atmosphere of estrangement. Contemporary graphic art has in its subject matter a strong penchant towards the fantastic, mainly in the etchings and lithographs by Stoyan Tzanev, Stoimen Stoilov and Stoyan Stoyanov. Ivan Dimov's paintings have an inclination towards photo-realism. In Rousse Nikolai Karadjov and Volodia Kenarev explore their own form of realism: Karadjov makes stylized still life paintings, Kenarev concentrates on interiors and old buildings in his paintings. The coloristic experiments by Vessa Vassileva, now working at Boyana, near Sofia, give her a position of her own in contemporary Bulgarian art. My acquaintance with Bulgarian art was short and undoubtedly fragmentary; nevertheless it was a real encounter which includes an earnest desire for contacts of a vaster and more profound character.

John Sillevijs,
Chief specialist in the Municipal museum The Hague.

Article in the catalogue for the exhibition "Contemporary Bulgarian Art" in "Pulchri" studio in June-July 1981.

BULGARIA 1300

From the article "Bulgaria – 1300" by R. Soetenhorst in "NRC Handelsblad", 31 October 1981

Bulgaria celebrates this year its 1300 years existence as a state. In 681 A.D. the Bulgarian Khan Asparuch succeeded through a war of many years in forcing the Byzantine emperor to make a treaty recognizing the Asparuch's kingdom on the Balkans.

Almost the whole international community was last week represented in Sofia at the festivities on occasion of the 1300 years Bulgaria.

Todor Zhivkov, since 1954 the undisputed leader of Bulgaria, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic could not have wished a better moment for the festivities around Bulgaria 1300.

The Bulgarian leader makes efforts for atom-free Balkans. The neighbourly countries are invited next year to a topconference about this idea, which could be held for example and by preference in Sofia. The Bulgarian government, which declares that it will not allow any atomic weapons on its ground, has already exchanged views with different Scandinavian governments about atom-free zones in Europe.

BULGARIA: – A REMOTE BALKAN-COUNTRY, WHICH IS WILLING TO COME CLOSER.

From the article "Bulgaria – a remote Balkan-country, which is willing to come closer" by B. Jansma in "Emmer Courant" – 11 August 1980.

In 1981 a celebrating state, which is proud of an existence not less than 1300 years, Bulgaria: – a country which had in a very short time to make up damages done for centuries, a hard on itself working communist state, which more and more often manages to attract the attention of the Western "spectator".

For the celebration of this anniversary in the Netherlands Bulgaria will be in the news with a series of exhibitions and visits of dancing groups and the unsurpassed opera of Sofia.

Bulgaria, a remote Balkan-country, which is obviously willing to come closer.

TO
K. KOSTOV, ESQUIRE, GENERAL DIRECTOR KORABOIMPEX
VARNA – BULGARIA.

Sperry Marine Systems offers its warmest and sincerest congratulations to KORABOIMPEX on the occasion of the 1300th anniversary of the Bulgarian State.

We trust that the ties between our two companies will grow stronger in the future to the mutual benefit of both.

We wish all the employees of your company a pleasant time during all the ceremonies and festivities associated with this notable anniversary.

We also hope that the future will bring a peaceful time in which our companies can grow and flourish further.

We would also like to extend our good wishes to all the companies we are dealing with through KORABOIMPEX and especially to all their employees.

Sperry Marine Systems.

TO
THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIALIMPORT
SOFIA - BULGARIA.

Dear Sir,

October 2, 1981

We herewith congratulate you on the occasion of the 13th century of the foundation of the Republic of Bulgaria.

With much interest we have followed your development and we express our respect for the very big achievement in production in all kind of industry you obtained.

Since almost 10 years we are in business contact with your company and we appreciate very much the contact we have with you, not only in business but also in personal respect.

Furthermore we wish you and your Nation a very prosperous future and we feel sure that you will continue to extend your progress in industry and business.

Meanwhile we beg to remain, dear Sir,

yours faithfully,

AMSTERDAMSCHÉ
HUIDENCLUB B.V.



Interior of a house in Koprivstitsa

**BULGARIAN BOOKS IN THE BOOKSHOP OF PUBLISHING HOUSE
"MARTINUS NIJHOFF"**

Newspaper
"Taal en teken"
4 april, 1981

An exhibition of Bulgarian books is going on in the bookshop of publishing house "Martinus Nijhoff" on Lange Voorhout in the Hague from 16th to 22nd of March.

This event is on the occasion of the 1300 year's existence of Bulgaria. The exhibition is organized by the Bulgarian Embassy with the assistance of "Martinus Nijhoff".

In his speech at the opening, the Slav scholar Prof. W.R. Veder from the catholic university in Nijmegen has spoken about the unacquaintance of the Bulgarian book in Holland, and especially about the bilateral lack of familiarity.

The exhibition shows that the Bulgarian printing is at a high level. The books on arts were a great surprise, and especially, bearing in mind that the Bulgarian art is practically unknown in our country.

This was an important cultural manifestation at "M. Nijhoff" and it was honoured with the presence of the Ambassadors of Poland, DDR, Hungary and the chargé d'affairs ad interim of the USSR.

The exhibition was opened by the Ambassador of Bulgaria Mr. Avramov.

TO
THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL IMPORT
SOFIA – BULGARIA
ATT. GENERAL DIRECTOR MR. ANGEL ANGELOV.

Dear Sirs,

On the occasion of your 13th century's anniversary we send our best greetings to you and your people of Bulgaria for good health and prosperity.

May our commercial relationship continue successfully in the future as heretofore and contribute to the good relations of our respective countries.

Yours faithfully,

Management of:

E. Schröder B.V., Vlaardingen,
S.A.D.E.S.A., Buenos Aires,
Fed. Meiners Ltda. S.A., Santa
Fe, Chilewich Corporation,
New York, Paycueros S.A.,
Montevideo.



The Rila Monastery national museum – a remarkable monument of Bulgarian culture

TO
MR. ALEXANDER PETKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE AGRO
INDUSTRIAL UNION, SOFIA – BULGARIA.

Dear Chairman,

September 4, 1981

This year it is 1300 years ago that the foundation of the Bulgarian state took place.

We like to congratulate the people of Bulgaria and special the chairman and his cooperators in the Agro Industrial Union with this happy event.

In the past we as group of Hendrix enterprises have had many good contacts with people of your country. We hope that this co-operation can go on in the future.

Ir. L.G. Vogels
Director

M. van Erp
Export Manager



The Cyril and Methodius Public Library in Sofia

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. L. AVRAMOV, AMBASSADOR OF THE
P.R. OF BULGARIA – THE HAGUE.

Your Excellency,

Enkhuizen, 12th October, 1981

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you cordially on behalf of the SLUIS EN GROOT Company, on the occasion of the 1300th Anniversary of the foundation of the Bulgarian State.

Through the years that we were doing business with your country, we have learned to like your people and admire what is being done for the future prosperity of the P.R. of Bulgaria.

Especially we like to mention our scientific co-operation with the Bulgarian Academy of Science in Sofia since 1972 and our commercial and technological co-operation with Mineralagro in Sofia since 1980.

May I wish you and your country further successes, and I do hope that the relations between our countries will continue to develop in future in a most satisfactory way.

Yours cordially,

Koninklijke Zaadteelt en
Zaadhandel
Sluis en Groot B.V.

A.G.F. Dingjan.

AN IMPRESSIVE LARGE-SCALE PERFORMANCE OF AIDA WITH BULGARIAN SINGERS OF SUPERB STANDING.

Newspaper
"Entree"
March, 1981

The Westeuropean tour of the Sofia State Opera with the enormous production of Aida has a special reason – the 1300 years' existance of the state Bulgaria.

In the two performances take part not less than 300 singers. The performances will take place in the Dutch Congress hall – Congresgebouw on the 18th and 19th of March, 1981.

Bulgaria is a country with rich opera traditions. Today, in great numbers, Bulgarian opera soloists are triumphing on the large opera stages.

On the occasion of this festive jubilee, singers of high standing are gathered, something which seldom can be done.

The performances in the Hague are under the patronage of the Bulgarian Ambassador in our country.



**AN EXCITING FINAL OF THE FILM SEASON IN THE HAGUE FILM MUSEUM.
A FESTIVE PROGRAMME GIVES AN IDEA OF THE BULGARIAN CULTURE.**

Newspaper,
"NRC Handelsblad"
Saturday, 9 May 1981.

One of the first cultural manifestations abroad in honour of the 1300th anniversary of creation of the state Bulgaria is carried out by the Bulgarian filmlibrary. It sends to the organizations with similar activity various film programmes – with Spanish subtitles for Latin America, French and English for Europe and North America.

The Dutch filmlibrary has made an extensive choice of the programme with English subtitles, thus contributing to the exciting final of its season 1980-1981, and mainly with the exceptional achievement – the film "The patent leather shoes of the unknown soldier" of Rnagel Valchanov.

The flourishing of the new Bulgarian film began in the 70's.

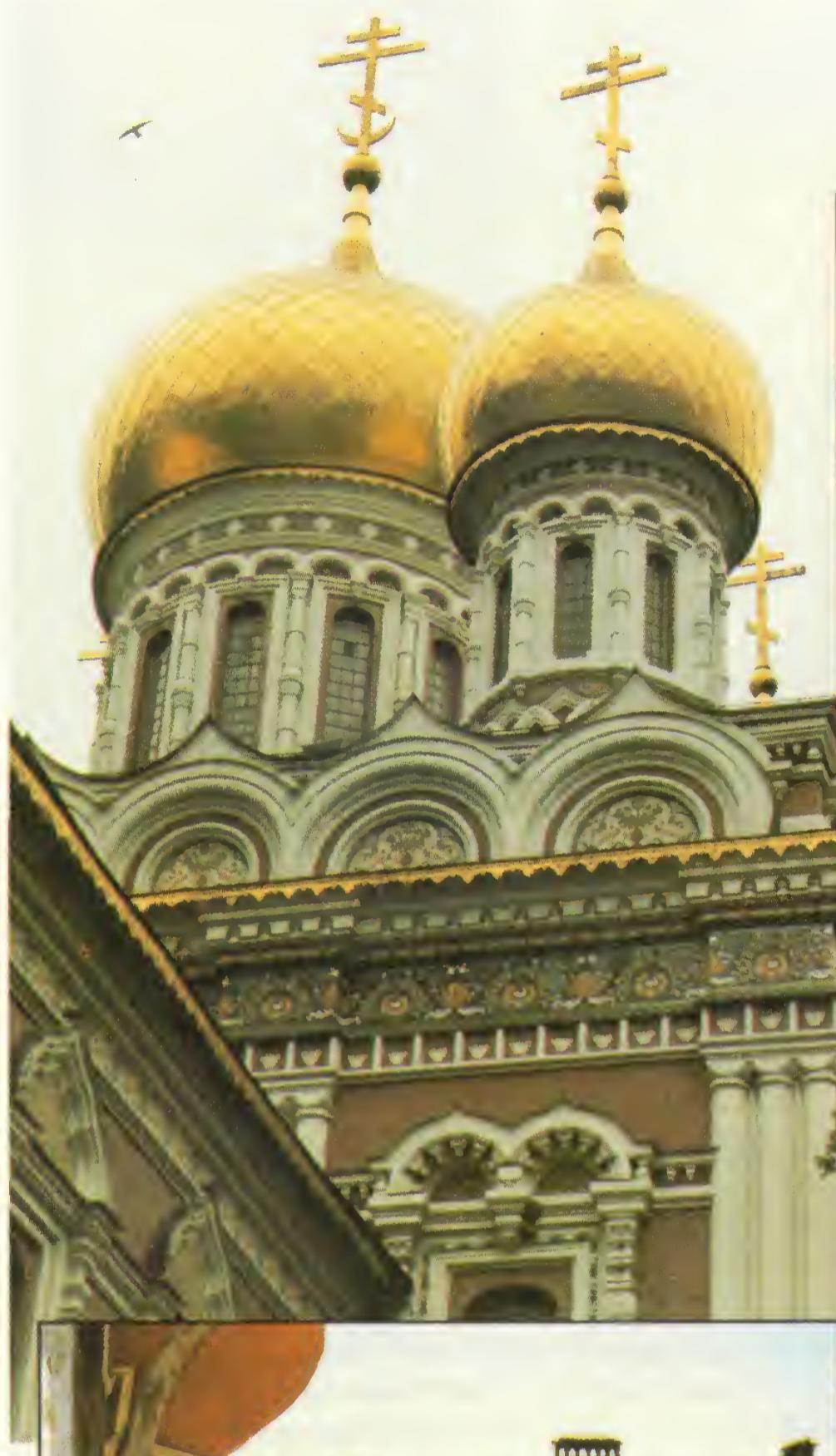
More and more foreign filmlibraries are showing an interest in the Bulgarian films.

THE BULGARIAN FILM
Filmmuseum
Cinemateeu
Journal 42, April 1981

The 1300th anniversary of the creation of the Bulgarian state is celebrated this year with many and various manifestations in Bulgaria and abroad. The Bulgarian film museum – Bulgarian National Filmlibrary in Sofia has also arranged special performances of Bulgarian feature and documentary films on this occasion.

These films are giving an idea of the Bulgarian history on one hand, and on the other are showing the development of the Bulgarian film during the recent 30 years, the period of Bulgaria after the Second World War and the flourishing of the national film industry.
on international film festivals abroad.

A view of the town of Bansko



"The Russian church" in Shipka
Mrs. J.A. Bruijn-Strijkema
from Amsterdam



*"9th September" square in Pleven
by night*



*Fresco in the church of Rila
monastery*

E. Smulders
Geleen



Koprivstitsa

Mrs. Marije Wagemahen
Tilburg

*Photos by Dutch participants at the
Photo-competition "1300 years
Bulgaria"*

EXCERPT FROM THE ARTICLE "1300 YEARS BULGARIAN MUSIC" IN THE BULLETIN "1300 YEARS BULGARIA"

In the Bulgarian people one can feel the nature of the country itself: sturdiness and inflexibility, but also beauty, romantics and grace.

During the 1300 years of its existence, Bulgaria has achieved, in the field of culture – ballet and choir, theatre, opera and music and last but not least orchestra – something the whole world speaks about in admiration.

For this very reason alone, Bulgaria can be congratulated with its 1300-year existence. I am proud that I have the possibility regularly to conduct there, and that I consider many Bulgarians my friends.

I herewith express my wish that all artistic manifestations which come from Bulgaria will be attended by many Dutch visitors. And may they join me and say: "BULGARIA, CONGRATULATIONS!"

Harry de Groot,
Composer and conductor.

1300 YEARS BULGARIA

From the article "1300 years Bulgaria" published in the newspaper "De Waarheid" – 5 November 1981.

This year Bulgaria celebrates the fact that 1300 years ago the Bulgarian Khan Asparuch with his victory over the troops of the Byzantine king Constantijn IV laid the foundation of the sovereign Bulgarian state. One of the most ancient European states looks back to a troubled and very often dramatic past.

The economic results of the collectivized agriculture together with the build up industry brought Bulgaria to a favourable position in the Comecon.

Excepting the agriculture products, Bulgaria, which was considered one of the most poor countries on the Balkans, exports today agriculture and other kind of machines as well as whole factories.

The Balkans once extremely a war region according to President Zhivkov has to be made a zone of peace. In his recently translated into Netherlands collection of speeches "Peace, democracy and socialism" the President Zhivkov said about that the following: "We can not stay indifferent to the fact that the NATO attempts to use the territory of some Balkan-countries as a launching pad for atomic missiles. We do hope that by the politicians and the military men in this countries the common sense will win and they will not permit that the Balkans get a toy in the hands of distinctly reactionary circles."



BULGARIA IN ITS 14TH CENTURY

**According to the Bulgarian constitution
everyone has the right to work**

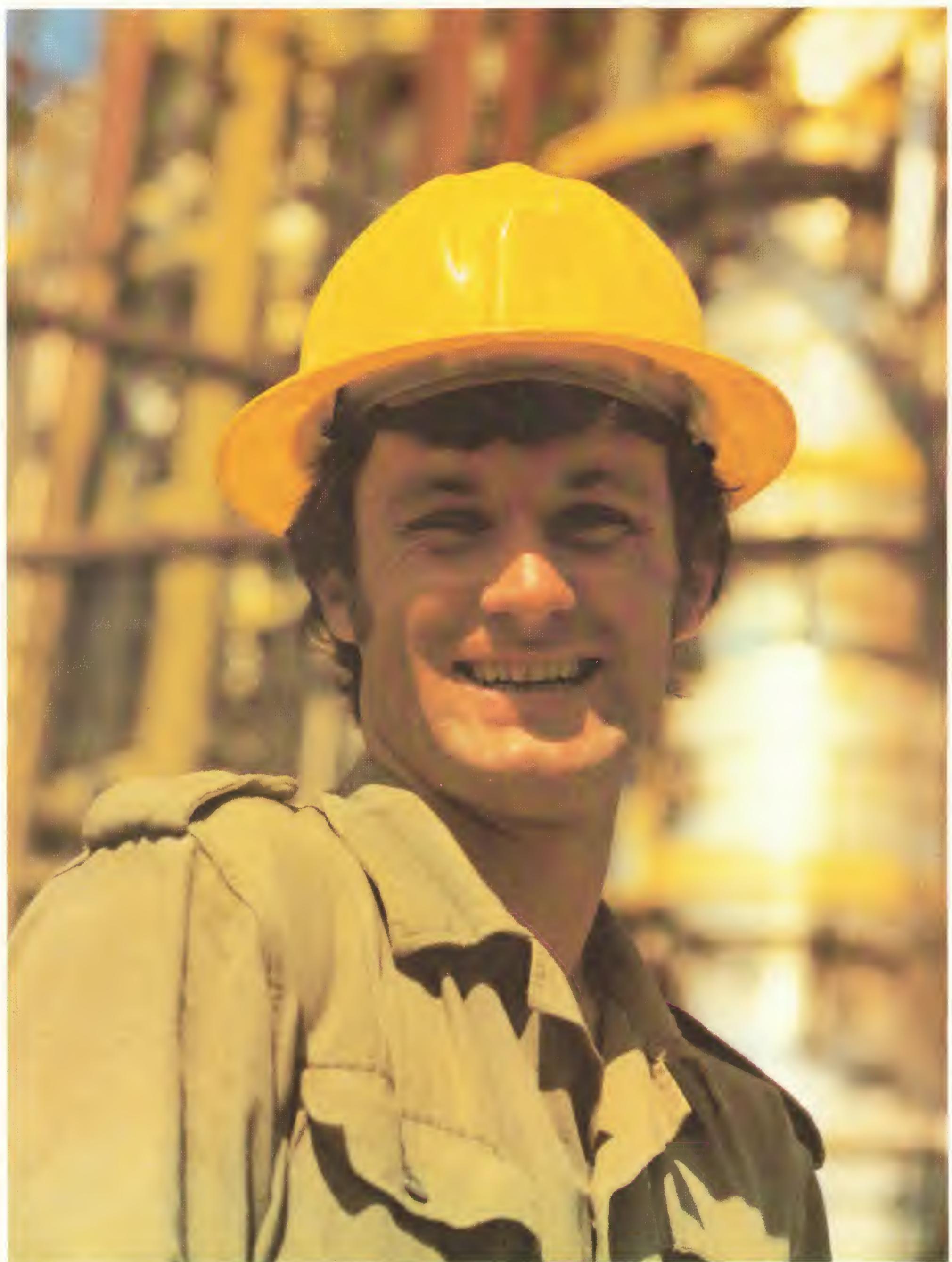
A Bulgarian worker



"Bulgaria's 14th century will be a century of communism, of the final triumph of liberty, fraternity, equality, happiness and beauty".

Todor Zhivkov

A Bulgarian worker



Bulgaria, contemporary industrial state

*The steel-metal works
"Kremikovci" near Sofia*



A sheet iron shop.



*The chemical plants near the town
of Stara Zagora*





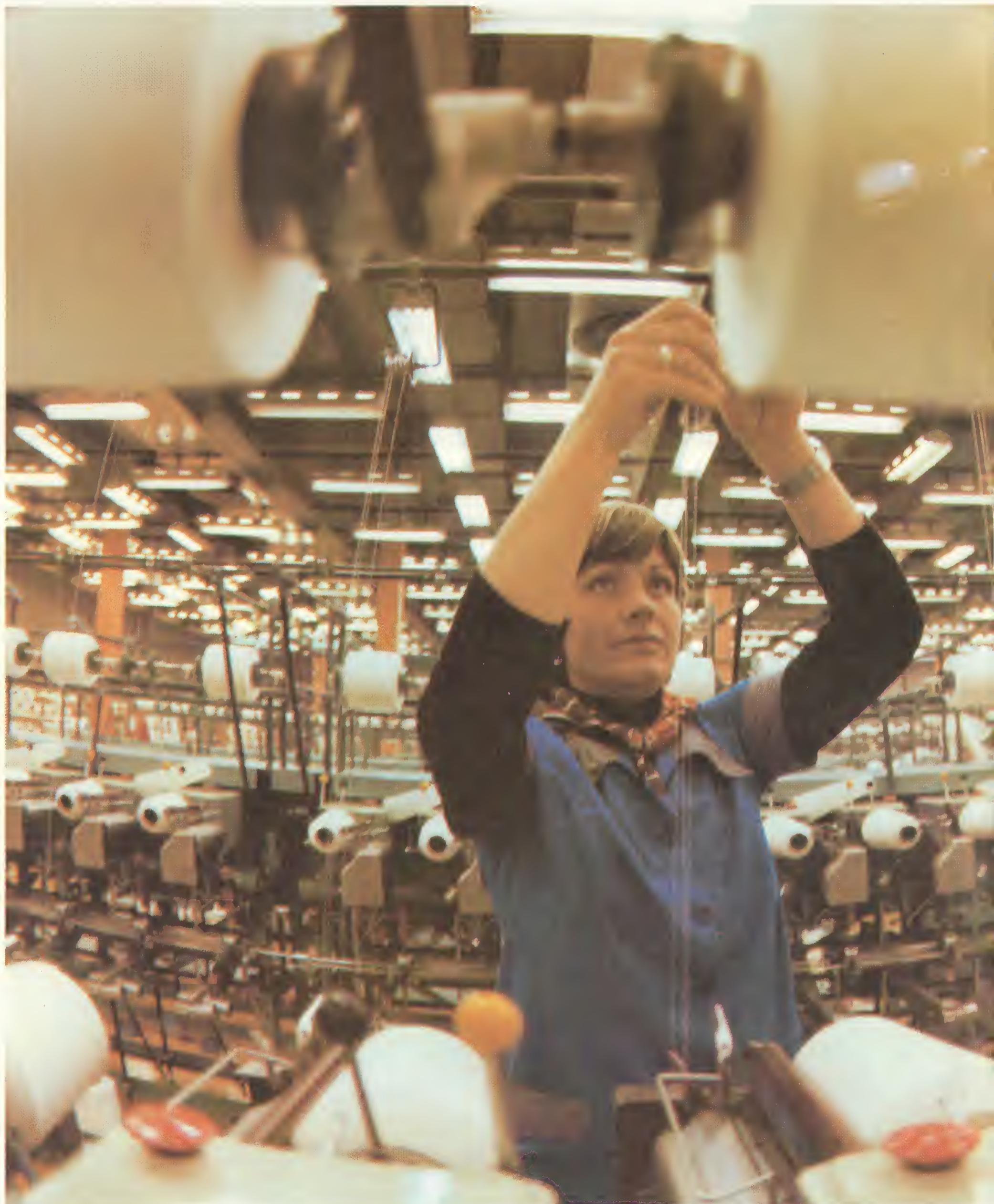
The computer plant in Sofia



The command centre of the atomic power station near the town of Kozlodui

Over the last 25 years the national income has rocketed 6.5-fold. Bulgaria now ranks among the first countries in the world in the annual growth rates of the national income

A Bulgarian woman, working in a textile-plant



Metal workers



"Today Bulgaria is an advanced industrial-agrarian country with a dynamically developing economy, with a constantly rising living standard and with a flourishing culture"

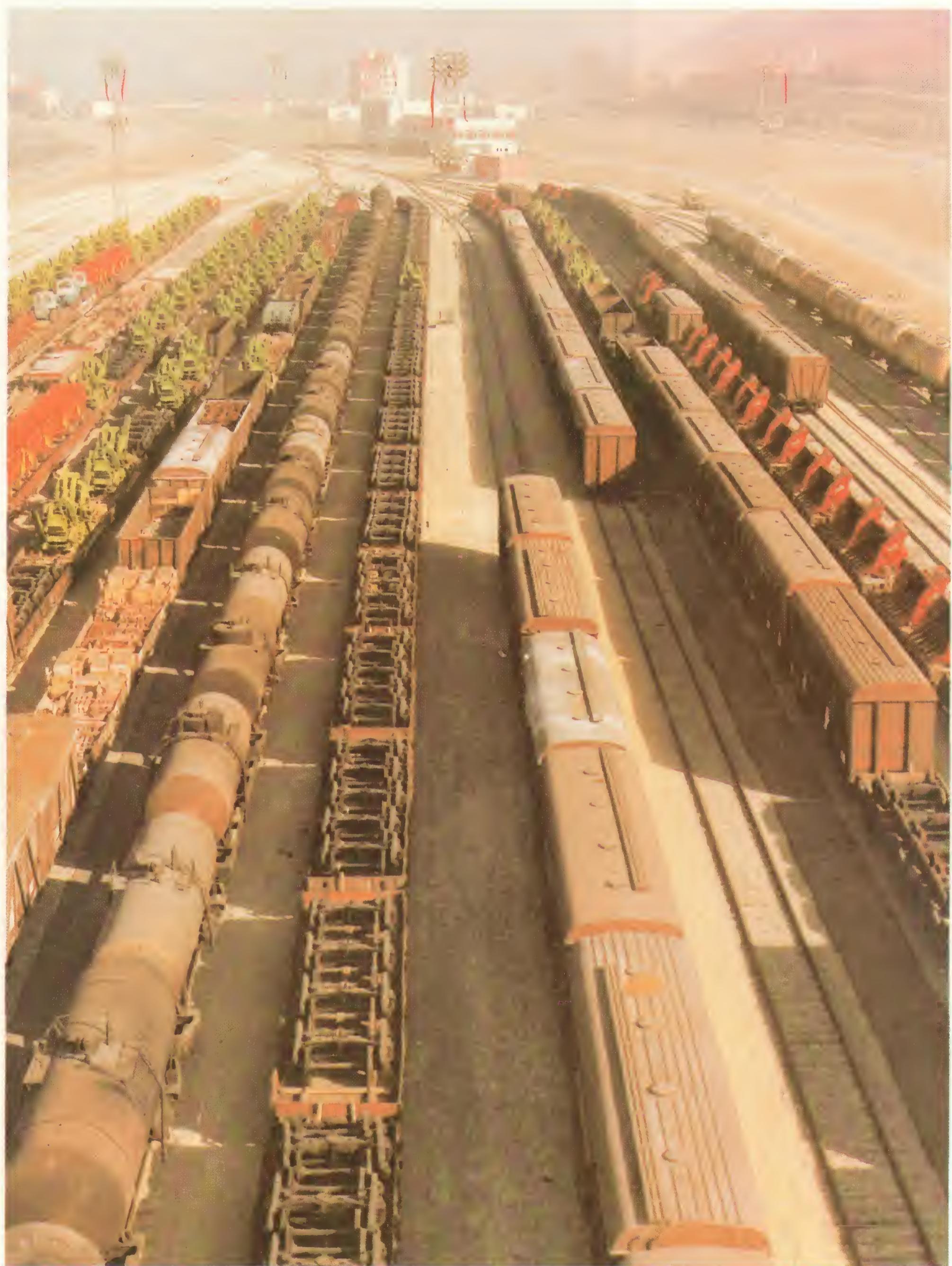
Todor Zhivkov

The "Electronica" plant in Sofia



Bulgaria has trade relations with 111 states

The Varna – Ilyichovsk ferry-boat complex – the fruit of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship





A shop in the Sofia plant for metal-cutting machines



One of the shops in the "Cherno More" Plant for manometers in Varna

The "Georgi Dimitrov" ship yard in Varna the "Khan Asparouh" – 100.000-ton tanker



Bulgaria, state of modern socialist agriculture

Harvest



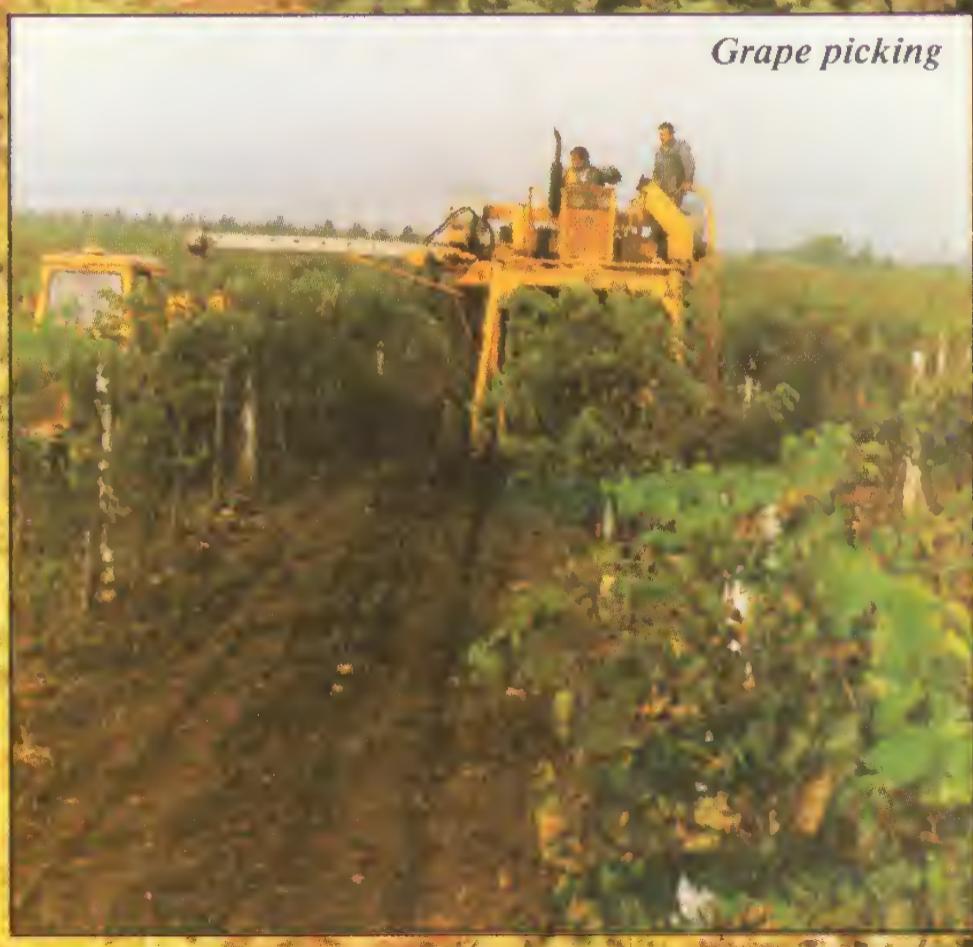


**"Today socialist Bulgaria is symbol of all valuable and
intransient, created during our glorious and century-long history"**
Todor Zhivkov



*The calf-fattening complex in the
town of Trustenik*

*Picking french beans in the
"Thracian Field Agro-industrial
Complex"*



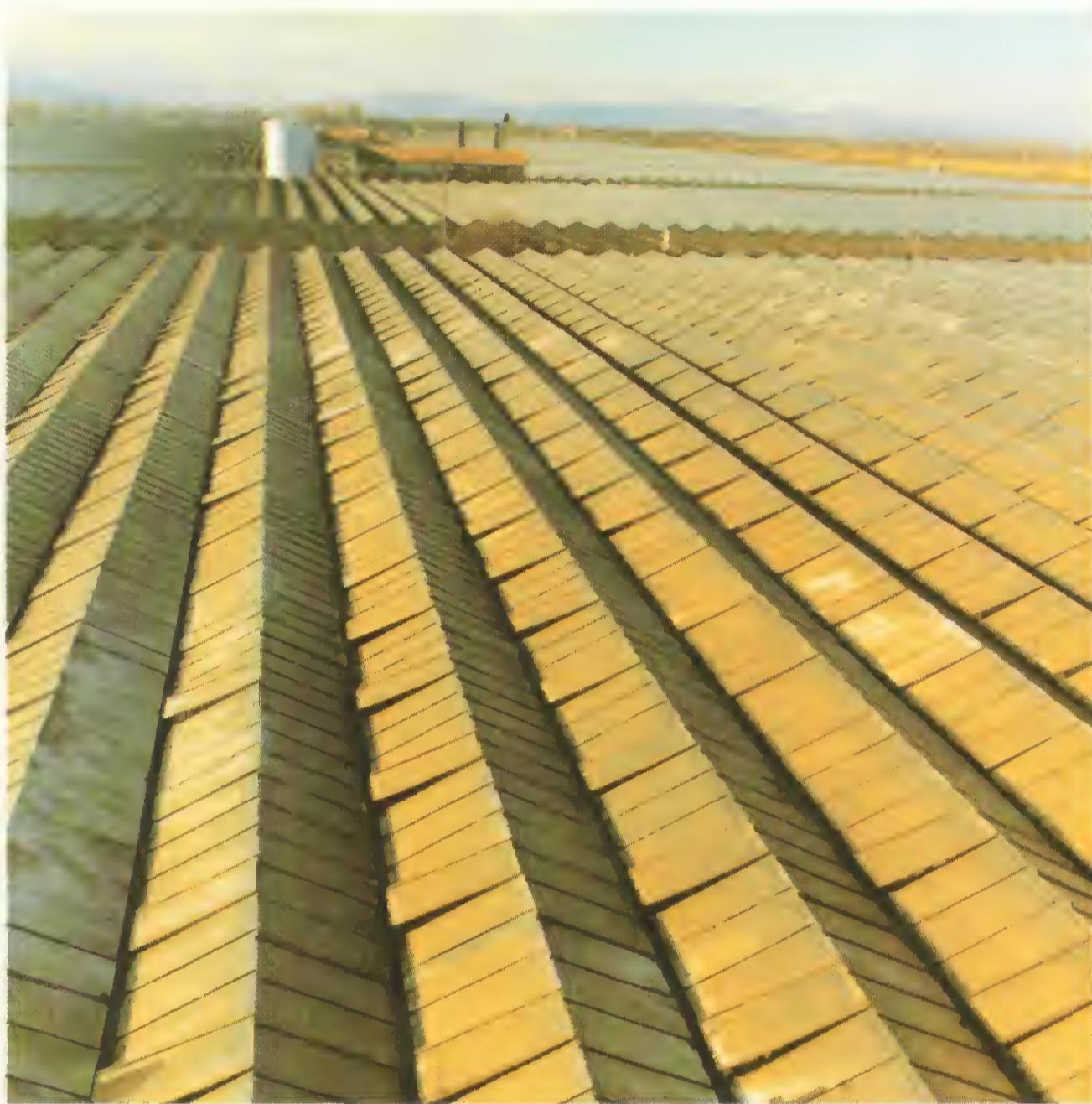


Orchards



Irrigation

*Greenhouses for early-ripe
vegetables*



Grazing



Villagers – cooperators from the agrarian
– industrial complexes in Bulgaria



A Bulgarian woman

Rose picker



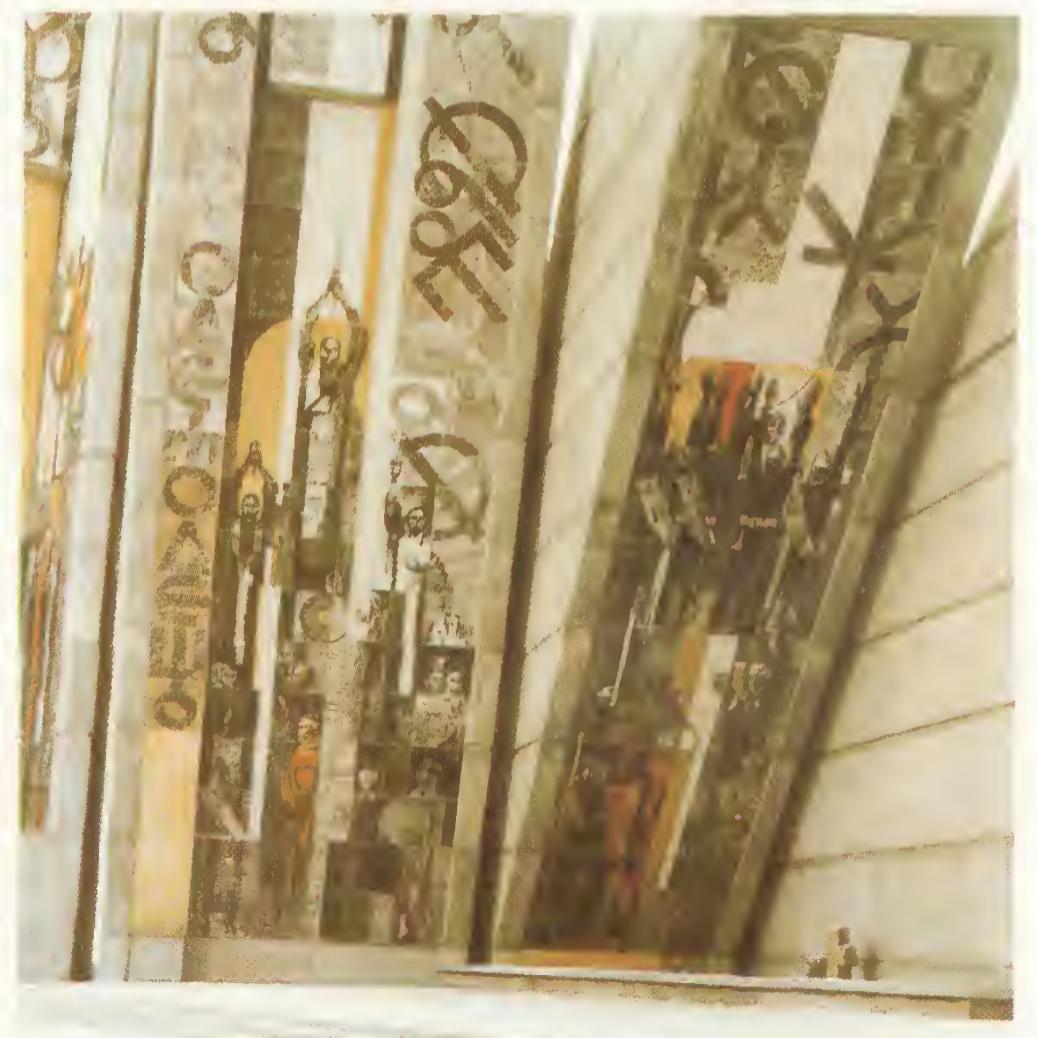
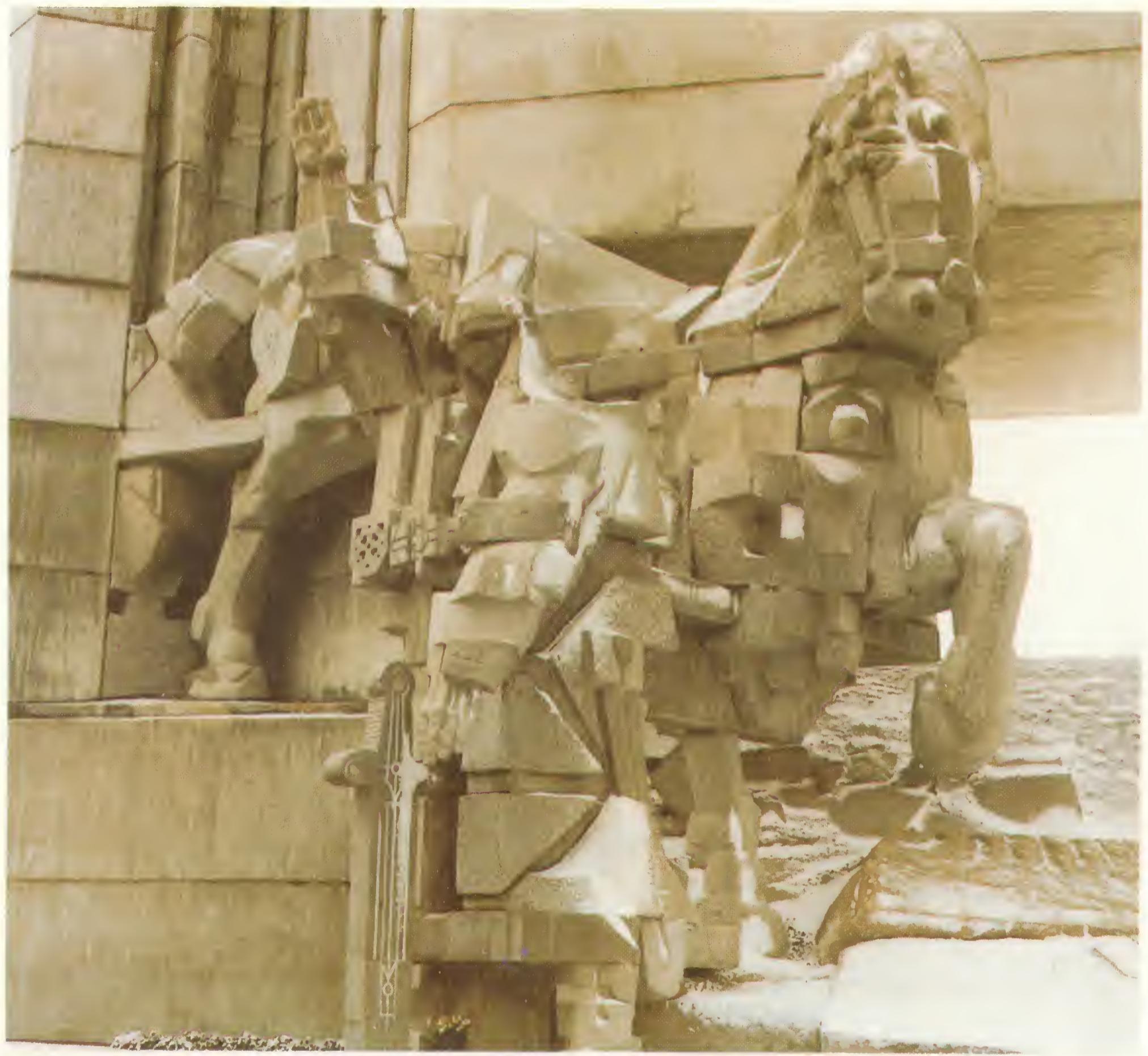
*The feast of the wine-growers
"Triphon Zarezan"*



Mechanics at the fields







The monument "1300 years Bulgaria" in Shoumen

Bulgaria successful in space exploration

Article by Corr. Member Prof. Dr. Kiril Serafimov, Chairman of the National Committee for the Exploration and Use of Space.

One could speak of Bulgaria's first tentative steps in space exploration soon after the USSR put its first Sputnik in orbit on October 4, 1957. Bulgarian experts started optical, electrophotometrical and radio monitoring of the artificial satellites; ionospheric, helio-physical and other space research was conducted from ground stations. As the co-founder of the joint INTERCOSMOS Programme in April 1967, Bulgaria availed herself of Soviet aid to develop quickly her own space-instrument building, sputnik communications, space meteorology, distant sounding of the Earth / and all the activities on its surface / from air and space; space biology and medicine; weightless orbital technologies; space power generation, and everyspace law.

Of the achievements worth mentioning are Bulgaria's participation in research conducted by the INTERCOSMOS satellites Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc. For the first time on December 1, 1972 on board INTERCOSMOS 8, a whole set of apparatus developed and built in Bulgaria went into orbit. These were electronic control and power-supply units for Langmuir probes and ion catchers, designed to take measurements of the concentration of electronic resp. ions, in the ionosphere, the Earth's electrified upper atmospheric layers. Subsequently, the series of Bulgarian plasma instruments for ionospheric studies were orbited repeatedly and they successfully fulfilled their tasks on board INTERCOSMOS 12, 14 and 19, and in the containers of the ballistic geo-physical rockets Vertical No. 3, 4, 6, and 7.

The specialists on space apparatus in Bulgaria created electrophotometers for the measuring of the weak natural luminous rays in the upper stratosphere. This Bulgarian electrophotometers were used in INTERCOSMOS 19 and in rockets Vertical 6 and 7. Within the framework of the Bulgarian – Indian scientific cooperation in 1978 and 1979 in India were started 2 rockets Type Centuar II which had Bulgarian and Indian apparatus on board.

Another triumph of Bulgarian space research was the creation and implementation of the major programme for the flight of the first Bulgarian cosmonaut. The programme consisted of 28 original experiments in the physics of near space, space technologies, distant sounding of the Earth and space biology and medicine. Three systems and apparatus invented and built by Bulgarian scientist ensured fulfilment of the programme: DUGA, an electro-photometric system to gauge radiations from the upper atmosphere; SPEKTR – 14, a multichannel spectrometer for distant sounding of the Earth; and SREDETS, a device to monitor the cosmonauts' psycho-physical reactions and to analyse them. Moreover original technological PIRIN ampoules were created for making experiments in smelting metals and forming new crystal and amorphous structures in the Soviet-made space furnaces SPLAV and KRISTAL on board of the SALYUT – 6 orbital station. Pills were prepared to test variations in the cosmonauts' sense of taste, and sanitary materials and foods for cosmonauts / in natural and lyophilised states. / Two Bulgarians – Georgi Ivanov and Alexander Alexandrov, underwent full training and were excellent qualified. The first went into orbit aboard the Soviet SOYUZ – 33 spaceship on April 10, 1979, together with Soviet commander Nikolai Rukavishnikov. The main Soviet space crews, holders of endurance records in space, Lyakhov and Ryumin, and then Popov and Ryumin, fulfilled and overfulfilled by far the whole Bulgarian-Soviet techno-scientific programme. After them and together with them the Bulgarian apparatus and systems were used by the international crews including cosmonauts from Hungary, Vietnam, Cuba, Mongolia and Rumania with Soviet



partners. Numerous interesting results were obtained about fundamental research, and a host of economic problems were solved.

Bulgaria profits a lot from distant probing of the Earth in prospecting for underground resources and solving problems of geology, geophysics, cartography, geodesy, oceanography, hydrology, meteorology, and other fields. Particularly successful use is made of multi-spectral photographs made from space or planes for the needs of soil science, control of crops and the management of water resources. For these purposes numerous types of apparatus have been developed in Bulgaria for probes from space / SPEKTR – 15 and SPM – 32 cameras and radiometer RM – 1 / as well as a 15 channel aircraft-borne camera / unchallanged worldwide / and a number of ground installations. Of the latter some have gained fame and are being offered for sale: the ISOH 10 and ISOH 20 gauges of spectral refection ratings, moisture and temperature gauges for different soils and the ground air strata, and other equipment. We now offer for export a complete microbus of ground-based gauging devices including spectrometric apparatus and all the necessary equipment to test space and aircraft photos of the Earth and make them fit for effective practical use.

The peak of the Bulgarian space programme was the creation and implementation of the Bulgaria – 1300 project. It consisted in the orbiting of two satellites, one of which was part of the Soviet space programme and was called METEOR – PRIRODA / Meteor – Nature. / Bulgarian systems for distant probing – the 32-channel SMP – 32 camera and a radiometer in the centimetre range. Also working on board is a Soviet TV camera and a three-channel Soviet radiometer. A Bulgarian computer does the job of processing the satellite's on-board information.

The top Bulgarian space achievements was the INTER-COSMOS – Bulgaria-1300 satellite in which al research and applied pieces of apparatus are Bulgarian-made, and the service systems are Soviet. Four groups of Bulgarian plasma gauges and devices to measure the intensity of electric and magnetic fields were fitted on board. Other devices gauge the natural light emissions and reflect their laser radar signals. Bulgarian experts built these instruments on a top-level, according to the latest standards, while our Soviet friends helped create a modern satellite which is now relaying a stream of interesting space information.

Space research and use are becoming powerful stimulators of techno-scientific and economic progress in Bulgaria. On the other hand they demonstrate the increased technical potentials of Bulgarian science and industry. Space is becoming populated with the achievements of the Bulgarian creative spirit, of our socialist state.

"Contemporary socialist Bulgaria is the crown of the 1300-year-long development of our state"

Todor Zhivkov



A flower for mammy

"Whether Bulgaria's next century will be an age of triumphant communism will depend on us, on our inspiration and daring, on our minds, hands and collective will, on the inspiration and daring, the minds, hands and will of our sons and grandsons"

Todor Zhivkov



A child at play

The young gardener



On the ski track

Bulgaria – the country where children from the five continents join hands in the name of Unity, Creativity and Beauty

*Children in front of the monument
"Banner of Peace" in Sofia*



*Lyudmila Zhivkova – initiator,
inspirer and organizer of the
International "Banner of Peace"
Assembly*



Children participating at the International Children's Assembly "Banner of Peace"

The youth of Bulgaria

An university student



"The Bulgarian people – the creator and the greatest creation of our national history – has for 13 centuries stood unshakably on this land"

Todor Zhivkov



*Newly weds
Just married!*

In a park in Sofia center.



Bulgaria – an attractive centre of the international tourism



"A state's antiquity is a source of pride for its people. Twice more justified is the pride of that people which does not rest solely on its past glory, but on its maturity and present-day achievements as well"

Todor Zhivkov



Meeting of tourists in the mountain



The Stastlivetsa tourist complex on Mount Vitosha



A view of the Black Sea town of Nessebar



In Bulgaria exist all conditions for development of popular sport

Swimming pool in Sofia





Peter Popangelov – a prominent Bulgarian skier

1981 – Bulgarian athletes won 170 prizes: 45 golden, 50 silver and 75 bronze medals



A ski track in Pamporovo mountain resort

The achievements of the Bulgarian culture are well known far away the bordes of Bulgaria

Sofia musical festival



The Sofia State Ballet



The world famous basso Nikolai Giaurov – people's artist



The honoured painter and people's artist Z. Lavrenov



The amateur art activities – inseparable part of the conditions of life of the Bulgarian people

Folk dancer



A folk song and dance group from the village of Shiroka Luka



In the towns and villages in Bulgaria there are about 24.713 amateur ensembles with a total of 552.917 amateur performers. There are also 2105 music schools, 3453 cinemas, 199 museums, 4256 reading clubs, 10.191 libraries and 287 palaces of culture.



Bulgarian dance group "Balkanska Mladost"

Children choir "Bodra smiana"





The Monument of the Unknown Soldier in Sofia

"Bulgaria is ending the 13th century since her foundation with a stable international position, with loyal allies and friends, with universally acknowledged and constantly growing prestige throughout the world"

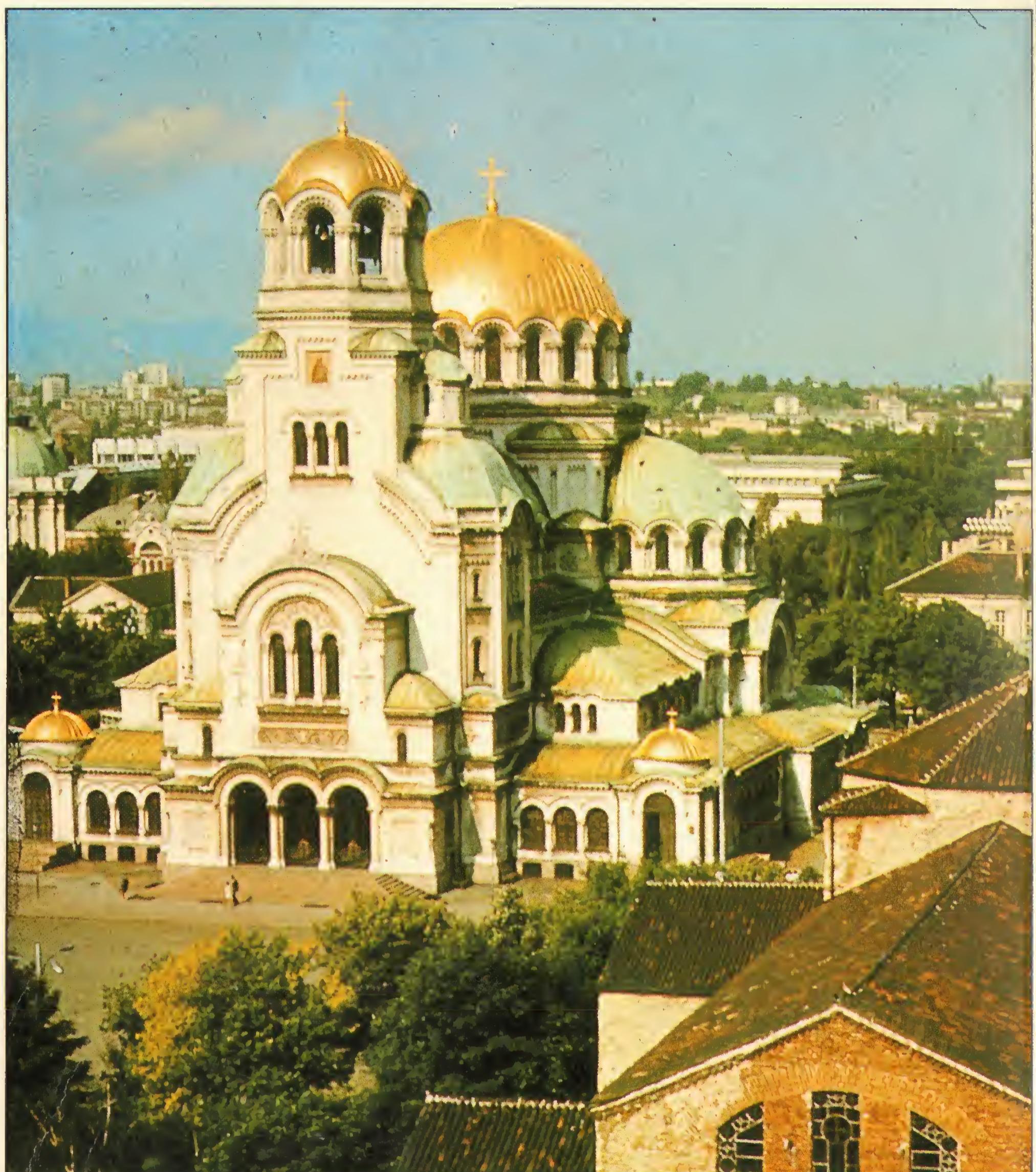
Todor Zhivkov



"Not only has the people of Bulgaria overcome the vicissitudes of fate along its historic path of 13 centuries, but it stands today before the eyes of the world – proud of its past, great in its present like never before, and confident in its future as a people in the van of human progress"

Todor Zhivkov

Monument of the founder of the Bulgarian State Khan Asparouch in the City of Tolbuhin



Sofia – the capital of Bulgaria.

1. Speech about Bulgaria - Todor Zhivkov	3
2. The world congratulates Bulgaria	23
3. The Netherlands congratulates Bulgaria	61
4. Bulgaria in its 14th century	101